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THE EUROPEAN SITUATION.

THE State papers which are issued from day to day by the Governments of Europe, and the various events reported from its great centres, do not tend to lessen the apprehensions of those who expect danger to peace in the course of the year. We are in for a period of agitation; it would be mere folly to pretend to ignore the fact; and in proportion as England recognises and acts upon it will her chance be of coming with honour and advantage out of the turmoil. Let none of us forget that we enter on a European war—if such a sad necessity is before Europe—under circumstances calculated not to alarm us, in any ignoble sense, of course, but still to make us reflect seriously. The changes in naval affairs, the increased strength of France, the uncertainty of our alliances, are all to be considered. Within, too, we have elements which will be a special cause of anxiety. The influence of an ultra-commercial and peace-any-how party—a party which would also watch the conduct of a war with a special eye to exaggerating mistakes for political objects—must be allowed for. So that we cannot afford to neglect any signs of danger which may appear in the horizon. It is not a question of “nonintervention.” Nobody here wants to “intervene.” But in a disturbance of the great landmarks of Europe we should be *intervened with*, which is another matter. Stand aloof from distant affairs, if you please—though it is difficult to do that without loss, since a French Nice (for example) means a new menace to Malta; but in near affairs—those of Prussia or of Belgium—nonintervention vanishes. The principle has no meaning; for, if their security is touched, the whole European framework trembles. It would be no use telling a man with gout in the toe that it was of no consequence, for it had not yet reached his stomach. He would think only of his system as a whole, and stop it as soon as possible. So, do not let us turn a very excellent general principle into a cant. England *cannot* stand aloof from all European complications whatever. She has never done so, and she has become great because she never did so. We should like to know how that great commercial and colonial system of which we boast could ever have formed itself if England had not asserted a European position? Our Navy is as old as the Crusades, and we traded successfully because we could fight. We got America by being able to thrash the Spaniards, and India by being able to thrash the French. We are not now going to substitute for the old standard of St. George the cotton rag under which some would have us march behind the prosperous despots of the neighbourhood.

The State papers of the day indicate a widespread feeling of uneasiness. Lord John Russell argues straight against the known designs of the French Government. Victor Emmanuel, in the midst of his natural exultation, has to deal with the enmity of the Vatican, and to announce the possibilities of fresh dangers. Austria, sulkily showing that, as regards formal and parchment rights, she has never been in the wrong, seems to withdraw to nurse her own wounds, without regard to other peoples' dangers. France makes the mildest profession, of course; but, then, how are we to believe them? She professed peace before the Italian struggle. She deprecated aggrandisement before annexing Savoy and Nice. To everything her Government says people now reply, like Sir Peter Teazle, “Oh, d—n your sentiments!” Words from that quarter are losing their value. Far more important than what she says is what she does. She forms great camps in minatory positions. She pulls strings which now make the Pope jump as if he had been shot, and now control the King of Naples like a puppet. She has always the peace of Europe, or the breaking of it, in her absolute power—both from her central position and her internal state; and this is more than any other single empire can say. It is not only that her strength is so great, but that it is so concentrated; and that nearly everywhere else the want of union prevents her rivals having a similar advantage. Germany is embarrassed by want of concord; and Germany, accordingly, seems likely to be the next object of aggression.

It is useless to ask *why* this should be—why France should not be contented to live under her own widespread vine-tree as contentedly as other nations. The historical problem is prodigiously hard; but, luckily, the practical question *how* the position should be met, is easier. France serves, no doubt, some purpose of Providence, by being the representative of the disturbing, aggressive element in the modern world. She is a warning to other nations to keep themselves in good order—to reform such internal arrangements as mar the efficiency of their Governments. But, if reflection teaches this, an instinct still truer than the result of the deepest reflection teaches, also, that she ought to be resisted. And common sense shows that there must be co-operation among all whom she threatens for the common good. It was easy for Polyphemus to devour his captives singly; but when a band of them joined together they contrived, big as he was, to put out his eye. It ought to be easier, indeed, to check this French Emperor than the last one. The great Napoleon started with a whole Revolution at his

back to conquer a Europe more or less touched by the same causes of agitation. The *sentiment* of Europe was less pacific than now; there was an immemorially ancient system to break up. But surely it is too soon after the Deluge for another bursting forth of the great waters. Every nation—even the most backward—has modified its social existence, more or less, to meet the changed ages. We may all reasonably argue that we do not deserve a second Napoleon quite so soon; and may hint to his Majesty that long study of his predecessor's achievements has affected his judgment—that he does not know his age so well as he fancies—that what he calls “destiny” may be only the egotism of a brooding imagination; and that, in the long run, it may be as well for his dynasty if he sticks to common prudence and common sense.

People will not accuse us of wishing for a French war when we thus earnestly express our hope that his Imperial Majesty will do the right thing to secure lasting peace. But, at the same time, England would be very foolish to talk as if, under no circumstances, was she willing to risk a blow for the stability and equilibrium of Europe. On the contrary, we strongly recommend that the line should be drawn by our statesmen as definitely and promptly as possible, with the understanding that beyond that lay a defensive war, with Great Britain at the head of it. This would either check the tamperings now going on with the Bavarian and Scandinavian Governments, or bring the danger to a head.

We have heard a Congress so often mooted during late years that the very term has come to signify an evasive or futile proposal; so, probably, few of our readers have been attaching much importance to the rumours of a meeting of the kind for the settlement of the Swiss question and questions belonging to it. Perhaps they have even fancied that the proposal was a tub thrown to amuse the European whale while the French harpoon was sharpening in the Tuileries. But, though incredulity is the forced wisdom of our time, let us neglect no necessary courtesy even to those of whose sincerity we cannot be sure. If France suggests a Congress, let us discuss it. If a Congress meets, let us send a Minister to it. If a vote be taken, let the Minister vote as the interest of the countries discussed and the honour of England seem to require. There need be no undue suspiciousness, no uncouth defiance from a nation too proud to be jealous and too brave to be alarmed. But of course, though ready to talk over the means of conciliation up to the very last moment, we must take care to be ready for whatever may lie beyond it.



THE CIVIL SERVICE.

THE ROYAL LONDON IRISH.

THE INNS OF COURT.

THE SIX-FOOT VOLUNTEER GUARDS.

THE QUEEN'S WESTMINSTER.

THE POST-OFFICE.

NEW UNIFORMS OF METROPOLITAN RIFLE VOLUNTEER CORPS.



VOLUNTEER UNIFORMS.

WITHOUT setting an undue value on the foppery of costumes, we can scarcely avoid congratulating both rifle and artillery volunteers on their repudiation of the uniform proposed for their adaptation by the War office authorities; for even those corps which have partially approached its general outlines have thrown over its more objectionable details. The Queen's Westminster Rifles and the Inns of Court Rifles are the only two metropolitan corps in whose eyes the Government pattern has found even partial favour; but in both those instances it has been so far modified as to present an extremely gentlemanly and becoming appearance.

The Queen's Westminster Rifles was first started as a Pimlico corps under the title of the Queen's Own, but by an arrangement with the other Westminster companies an amalgamation was effected, and they were all embodied as a strong battalion under its present title, the whole placed under the command of Earl Grosvenor. The uniform is light grey, almost entirely devoid of ornament, scarlet facings, grey and scarlet braiding, and bronze buttons. The belts, pouch, and ball-box are of brown leather, the whole admirably adapted for securing a general neutrality of colour. Their undress is a kind of blouse, also of light grey.

The uniform of the Inns of Court Rifles is of the Government colour, but of fine cloth, the facings scarlet and the braid grey and scarlet; the belts, pouch, and ball-bag are brown, the buttons bronze; and the dress altogether nearly free from ornamentation.

The Royal London Irish Rifles, although only in the third month of its existence, already numbers nearly two hundred members; it was started in December, and warmly taken up by the Irish nobility and gentry resident in London. One half, or perhaps a little more, are either natives of Ireland or connected with it by property, but a number of English gentlemen—friends in connections or its promoters—have, by giving in their adhesion, assisted to swell its ranks; and from the character and position of its members it promises to be one of the crack corps of the metropolis. The uniform is dark grey, richly braided with silver and green silk braid; the facings are emerald-green, and the belts black enameled leather, with silver mountings; the headdress is a demi-shako surmounted by a plume of brown-black feathers.

The Post Office Rifles, another of the newly embodied corps, has attained to considerable proficiency at drill, for which purpose they meet three evenings in the week. The uniform is dark grey, with black braid; forage-cap of the same material; the belts are black, and the ornaments are of bronze.

The Civil Service Rifles have the same uniform as the Post Office Rifles, except that the cap is rather more square, and is surmounted by a pompon which gives it rather an old-fashioned appearance. This corps is becoming very efficient in drill.

The Six-foot Volunteer Guards differ from the other metropolitan volunteer corps inasmuch as that, with the exception of the Artillery Company, it is the only corps which has adopted a scarlet uniform; they differ also in adopting the title of guards instead of the more unpretending one of rifles. The uniform consists of a scarlet tunic, elaborately braided with silver cord and black braid. The helmet is of enameled leather, with silver mountings, and is surmounted by a rich and flowing plume of black-bronze feathers; the belts are black, mounted with silver.

The entire of the newly-raised volunteer corps are armed with the long Enfield rifle, the entire of the fire-arms required being at the present time supplied by the Government—a circumstance that has considerably aided the furtherance of the volunteer movement; and, although the weapon served out, may not comport so completely with the dandyism of a rifle corps as its short rival, many experienced military men seem inclined to hold a more favourable opinion of its efficiency.

Foreign Intelligence.

FRANCE.

THE Government deems it right to inform the public, through the *Moniteur*, that the Organic Law of the Concordat prescribes that—"No bull, brief, rescript, decree, mandate, provision, signature serving for provision, or other document from the Court of Rome, even relating to individuals, can be received, published, printed, or otherwise carried into execution, without the permission of the Government." This warning has reference, of course, to the Papal excommunication just pronounced against the "abetors," &c., of the annexation of the Romagna to Piedmont. The excommunication majeure deprives the excommunicated of all participation in the public prayers of the Church offered up for the faithful. The excommunicated cannot administer or receive the sacrament, nor can they be present at Divine service. If an excommunicated person enters a church the service must at once cease, or when he presents himself the priest must quit the altar. The excommunicated is deprived of Christian burial: a cemetery in which he is interred becomes polluted. The excommunicated cannot name, or be named to, benefices or ecclesiastical dignities; he cannot exercise spiritual jurisdiction; and, in a word, he is deprived of all communication with the faithful, either in sacred or mere worldly matters. Such being the most striking consequences of excommunication, we may easily believe that, even without the notice which the *Moniteur* has given, the Court chaplains would not read in presence of his Majesty, and in full chapel, the bull which inflicts these penalties on the "actors, promoters, advisers, coadjutors, &c., of the invasion" of the Romagna.

The Senate has rejected, by passing to the order of the day, and with 116 against 16 votes, several petitions requesting the intervention of the Senate in favour of the temporal power of the Pope.

The recent discussions in the House of Commons on the Savoy question has created great excitement in Paris; and there are symptoms that the French press has received liberty to animadvert on England and the English as freely as it pleases.

On Saturday the Emperor passed the troops forming the garrison of Paris in review, M. de Schouvaloff, the Emperor of Russia's Adjutant, being present. The *Moniteur* denies the report that the effective of the infantry regiments is about to be reduced by two companies per regiment.

The Budget of 1861 has been presented to the Corps Legislatif. The receipts are estimated at 1,845,000,000f., and the expenses at 1,844,000,000f.

SPAIN AND MOROCCO.

The official *Gazette* publishes the preliminaries of peace agreed upon between Spain and Morocco. Morocco cedes to Spain the whole territory from the sea to the hollow road of Anghera, and also a certain portion of territory at Santa Cruz. The convention of 1859 referring to Melilla, Penon, and Albuera is ratified. An indemnity of 4,000,000 reals is to be paid to Spain. Tetuan will be kept by Spain until this payment is effected. A treaty of commerce is also to be concluded guaranteeing privileges to Spain as to the most favoured nation. A representative of Spain and a missionary establishment are to be permitted at Fez. There is also a proviso that the Moors are not to cede, sell, or surrender Tangier to any foreign Power. The treaty of peace is to be signed at Tetuan before the 25th of April. All hostilities are to cease. The Spanish army, however, is to be allowed to chastise the Kabyles.

Private letters from Madrid announce that both the Queen and the public are dissatisfied with the peace, and indignant against O'Donnell; that the feeling is so strong that the Ministers determined to resign; that their determination was communicated to O'Donnell, who also tendered his resignation; and that her Majesty has refused to accept it until they shall have rendered an account to the Cortes of the whole proceeding.

ITALY.
SARDINIA.

Sardinian troops have entered Florence, where Prince Carignan has issued a proclamation, treating the annexation in the light of the

movement for Italian unity. The Sardinian garrison is about to leave Nizza for Florence.

It is rumoured at Turin that the new kingdom is to be divided into six large governments—viz., Piedmont, Lombardy, Parma, Modena, Tuscany, and Romagna.

NAPLES.

It is asserted that the Ambassadors of the Western Powers have remitted collective notes to the Government in order to determine the King to adopt reforms.

Rumours of a Ministerial crisis are flying abroad. The propaganda in favour of annexation to Sardinia is becoming more daring. A Capuan monk has been prosecuted at the Criminal Court for his preaching, which had been denounced as being of a seditious character.

ROME.

On Thursday week a proclamation, dated March 26, was posted up in five different quarters of Rome, by which the Pope hurls the major excommunication and other ecclesiastical penalties against all actors, promoters, coadjutors, councillors, and supporters of the rebellion, usurpation, and invasion of the States of the Church.—A telegram from Rome, dated March 27, says:—"It is asserted that the Pope has again written to King Victor Emmanuel, declaring that his Holiness will be compelled to interrupt all relations with the Royal family, and threatening to employ the most extreme severities of the Church, should the King persist in occupying the Legations. In case of its evacuation by the French, Rome will be occupied by the Pontifical troops. Neapolitan troops will enter the Marches. At Ancona 3000 men of the Papal army are concentrated."

General Lamoricière has been busy inspecting the garrisons. The *Mayence Journal*, a paper of Ultramontane tendencies, publishes the following letter of Pius IX. to Victor Emmanuel:—

Your Majesty,—The ideas expressed in your letter to me are beneath the dignity of an honest man, of a Catholic, and more especially of one deriving his origin from the noble race of Savoy. For a further reply I refer you to my encyclical letter. If I weep it is not for myself, but for the state of your Majesty's soul. For the deeds committed by you at the instigation of your advisers you have subjected yourself to the punishment of the Church, and you will become liable to further punishment should you complete the acts which I know you intend to carry out. I remind your Majesty that within a short time you will have to render account before the most inexorable of Judges for the offences already committed, and for the evils which you inflict upon our poor Italy by your conduct.

Pius IX., Pope.

No date is affixed to this letter in the above-mentioned journal; but, from internal evidence, it appears that it has been written within the last six weeks.

PRUSSIA.

The *Kreuz Zeitung* says:—"The reply of Prussia to M. Thouvenel's despatch is in reality of a rather evasive character. It expresses great dissatisfaction on account of the annexation of Savoy, but it cannot be characterised as a protest. As regards the claims of Switzerland, Prussia has not yet sent her reply to the note of the Federal Council. The statement that Prussia intends to establish two fortified encampments is, according to reliable information, without any foundation." Another account is, that "The establishment of two entrenched camps on the Rhine has been decided. One of them is to be at Eifel, near Mayen, on the left bank. The other will be on the right bank, but the military authorities have long hesitated as to its site."

AMERICA.

From a report in another column it will be seen that the Americans appear to have taken sides openly against Miramon in the struggle now raging in Mexico.

The proceedings in the Senate have been entirely of a national character. A bill for the construction of fifty steam-ships adapted to the African coast, for the suppression of the slave trade; a joint resolution authorising the President to negotiate with other nations for the right of search within 200 miles of the western coast of Africa; and an order instructing the Judiciary Committee to report a bill substituting imprisonment for life instead of death, and applying the penalty to persons fitting out slave-ships, have been introduced. The bill for the suppression of bigamy in Utah had failed. Governor Stewart had vetoed the Missouri Free Negro Bill.

INDIA.

A telegram from Bombay, dated March 13, gives us the following intelligence:—"The following troops have sailed, or will sail, for China:—Her Majesty's 31st Regiment, February 18th; 3rd Native Infantry, 20th; one hundred of the 5th Native Infantry, 20th. The remainder of the 5th Native Infantry and No. 3 Battery Royal Artillery will sail in a few days. The Punjab Infantry are to sail from Kurrachee to-day. Six hundred horses and six hundred mules will also be dispatched to China as early as possible."

"The regulations in reference to the issue of the new paper currency have been published by the Government. The notes will be of 5, 10, 20, 50, 100, and 1000 rupees, to the aggregate value of £5,000,000 sterling, and the issue will be effected through commissioners of the Bank of England. The convertibility of the paper will be provided for by one-third of the amount of the notes in circulation being kept in coin. Two-thirds are to be invested in Government securities. The notes to be issuable only in exchange for coin."

OPENING OF THE SARDINIAN CHAMBERS.

THE KING'S SPEECH.

THE Sardinian Chambers were opened on Monday. His Majesty entered the Hall of the Senate amid "indescribable applause," and delivered the following speech:—

"SIGNORI SENATORI, SIGNORI DEPUTATI,

"The last time I opened Parliament, amid the troubles of Italy and the dangers of the State, faith in Divine justice encouraged me to augur well of our destiny.

"In a very short time an invasion was repulsed. Lombardy was freed by glorious deeds of heroism, and Central Italy became free by the marvellous virtue of its inhabitants, and thus to-day the representatives of the rights and the hopes of the nation are assembled around me.

"For such a benefit we are indebted to a magnanimous ally, to the valour of his and our soldiers, to the assistance of volunteers, and to the persevering concord of the people. We ascribe the merit of it to God, as without superhuman aid such memorable enterprises cannot be accomplished. The gratitude of present and future generations is due to France for the welfare of Italy, and for consolidating the union of the two nations, who have some community in origin, principle, and destiny.

"It was necessary to make some sacrifice, and I have made that which was dearest to my heart. Reserving the vote of the people and the approbation of Parliament, and reserving also in regard to Switzerland the guarantee of her international rights, I have concluded a treaty for the reunion of Savoy and the surrounding territory of Nice with France.

"We have still many difficulties to overcome; but, assisted by public opinion and by the love of my people, I shall never permit any one to offend or forget any right or liberty. Firm, like my ancestors, in the Catholic religion, and in the respect due to the supreme Chief of that religion, I shall, if the ecclesiastical authority makes use of spiritual arms for temporal interests, in safe conscience and in the traditions of my worthy ancestors, find strength to maintain entire the civil liberty and authority for which I am only indebted to God and to my people.

"The provinces of the Emilia have been arranged as in former times; but with Tuscany, who has her own laws and her own rules, a special temporal provision was necessary.

"The short time since, and the rapidity of the event, have impeded the preparation of the laws which are necessary to assist and strengthen the new estate. For the first period of legislation you will only have to discuss the most urgent measures, and my Ministers will prepare

with due deliberation the projects upon which you will have to deliberate for the second period.

"Based on the statutes of the country, the political, military, and financial unity, and the uniformity of the civil and penal laws, the progressive administrative liberty of the provinces and communes will renew in the Italian people that splendid and vigorous existence which, at the time of another form of civilisation and of other territorial arrangements of Europe, was the fruit of the municipal autonomy which is to-day opposed to the constitution of strong States and to the genius of the nation.

"SIGNORI SENATORI, SIGNORI DEPUTATI,

"In entering upon the new order of things, and without regarding the old political parties in any other way than remembering the services rendered to the common cause, we call for a noble co-operation, and the expression of every sincere opinion, in order to obtain our principal object—the welfare of the people and the greatness of the country, which is no longer the Italy of the Romans nor that of the Middle Ages. It must no more be left a field open to foreign ambition, but it must, on the contrary, be the Italy of the Italians!"

ENGLAND AND THE ANNEXATION OF SAVOY.

Lord John Russell has laid upon the table of the House of Commons a series of official papers relating to the annexation of Savoy and Nice, in continuation of those which were presented to Parliament a few weeks ago. Of these documents those which will attract most attention are the despatch of Lord John Russell to Earl Cowley in answer to M. Thouvenel's statement of the reasons by which the French Government justifies the unreserved annexation of Savoy and Nice, and M. Thouvenel's despatch to Count Persigny, containing the remarks of the French Government on the same.

The annexation of Savoy has almost from its first announcement been regarded by the public under two distinct aspects—as the revelation of a general policy of aggrandisement on the part of France, and also as a special injury to Switzerland and to the interests which Western Europe has in the independence and neutrality of the Swiss Confederation. It is the former—the general relations of the measure—which Lord John Russell more particularly considers in the despatch now published, for, although the latter, the more specific bearings of the transaction, are noticed in the course of his argument, a note to Lord Cowley informs us that her Majesty's Government intend to address the Government of France specially respecting the neutrality of Savoy and its connection with that of Switzerland when they have had time to consult the other Powers which are parties to the treaties of guarantee.

Lord John Russell commences by intimating that, after examining the claim which France makes to the cession of Savoy and Nice, and the principles by which it is justified, he finds the first weak and the second unjust. He proceeded to say that—

To imagine that Sardinia, even with a population of 12,000,000, would ever think of invading France with a population of 36,000,000, is to suppose that which amounts to a moral impossibility. Sardinia, so augmented, will become a respectable State, capable of attaining a great degree of internal prosperity, and sufficiently strong to defend herself against any other Italian Power; but that the French empire, the first military Power of the Continent, with a vast, compact territory, full of natural resources, and with a population characteristically warlike, should be in danger of being attacked by her far weaker neighbour, is not in the nature of things. There are, besides, many political considerations which go to show that the tendency of Sardinia must always be towards maintaining the most friendly relations with France. We may, then, at once dismiss the notion that France can require any other guarantee than her own inherent strength affords her against any attack from Sardinia, acting alone.

The suggestion that Sardinia might become a member of a Confederation arrayed against France, and that, by having both sides of the Alps, she might open the road to other Powers to invade France, is met by the remark that—

There never can be a confederacy organised against France unless it be for common defence against aggressions on the part of France, and that therefore France has it at all times in her power to avert the formation of such a confederacy. There is no Power in Europe that does not wish to maintain friendly relations with France, and there is none that could hope to reap any advantage from a voluntary and unprovoked rupture with so powerful a State.

But the most important part of Lord John Russell's despatch is that in which he considers the assertion of M. Thouvenel, that the demand for the cession of Savoy to France ought not to give umbrage to any State, because it is founded on a just balance of forces, and is especially pointed out by the nature of things which has placed the French system of defence at the foot of the western slopes of the Alps. Lord John says:—

Her Majesty's Government must be allowed to remark that a demand for cession of a neighbour's territory made by a State so powerful as France, and whose former and not very remote policy of territorial aggrandisement brought countless calamities upon Europe, cannot fail to give umbrage to every State interested in the balance of power, and in the maintenance of the general peace. Nor can that umbrage be diminished by the grounds on which the claim is founded; because, if a great military Power like France is to demand the territory of a neighbour upon its own theory of what constitutes geographically its proper system of defence, it is evident that no State could be secure from the aggressions of a more powerful neighbour; that might and not right would henceforth be the rule to determine territorial possession; and that the integrity and independence of the smaller States of Europe would be placed in perpetual jeopardy.

And again:—

If France claims Savoy and Nice on the principle of a "revendication,"—that is to say, on the principle of claiming that which she has at any time had a right to,—her claim cannot be founded on the Treaty of 1814, but must go back to the time of the first French Empire; and it is needless to point out what just alarm the whole of Europe must feel at a claim which, however limited in its present application, is susceptible of being extended to such vast and dangerous dimensions.

Lord John concludes with the following significant language:—

Great Britain has no direct interest of her own in this matter, and it is from no unfriendly feeling towards France that her remonstrances on this subject have proceeded. Her Majesty's Government, indeed, are deeply impressed with the conviction that any territorial advantage which France might gain by the proposed annexation would be far more than counterbalanced by the distrust with which it would inspire the other States and Powers of Europe. The calamities which overspread by turns almost every part of the continent of Europe during the closing years of the last and the early years of the present century are still fresh in the memory of mankind; their renewal would, indeed, be a deplorable misfortune, and it cannot be surprising that the attention of nations and of their rulers should be directed with anxious solicitude to events which have a bearing both on the interests of the present and on the destinies of the future.

In his reply to this document (addressed to the French Ambassador at our Court) M. Thouvenel says:—

I cannot but experience a very lively feeling of regret that I have not succeeded, as I desired, in modifying an opinion which was already known to me through the previous communications of the English Ambassador; but the prolongation of any discussion on this subject would have no practical result, and I prefer, rather than provoke a fresh exchange of explanations equally painful to both countries, to confine myself to asserting that Lord John Russell's despatch has not the character of a protest. In a word, the Government of her Britannic Majesty declares that it does not share the opinion of the Government of the Emperor; but this divergence does not constitute an opposition of a nature to affect the relations of the Cabinets of Paris and London. I am sincerely pleased at this, M. le Comte; and there are only two points in Lord John Russell's argument which I wish to examine summarily, so as to leave in the mind of her Britannic Majesty's principal Secretary of State neither a misunderstanding nor a doubt as to our intentions. I believed that I had established that the Emperor, in making use, in his speech to the great bodies of the State, of the word "revendication," had never had an idea of referring to any diplomatic act, or to any circumstance of other times. The explanations which I have given on this subject to his Majesty's representatives at the German Courts have been everywhere considered as satisfactory as possible, and I had requested you to transmit to Lord John Russell a copy of the despatch which contains them. I renew these explanations to-day with the confidence that, on examining them closer, her Britannic Majesty's Government will not receive them less favourably than the Powers to whom they were more especially addressed.

As for the neutrality of Switzerland, M. le Comte, which Lord John

Russell considers to be menaced by the annexation of Savoy to the territory of the Empire, I will content myself with remarking to you that France attaches the greatest interest to preserving it from any injury. The Emperor's Government, therefore, has not hesitated, in order to prove the sincerity of its disposition in this respect, to insert in the treaty which it has just concluded at Turin a clause in these terms:—

"It is understood that his Majesty the King of Sardinia cannot transfer the neutralised portions of Savoy, except on the conditions upon which he himself possesses them, and that it will appertain to his Majesty the Emperor of the French to come to an understanding on this subject, both with the Powers represented at the Congress of Vienna and with the Swiss Confederation, and to give them the guarantees required by the stipulations referred to in this article."

It appears to me that all apprehensions should disappear in face of this spontaneous engagement, and that henceforth her Britannic Majesty's Government, certain of having the opportunity of discussing the guarantees which shall, in pursuance of an European agreement, be judged to be best fitted to realise, in their relations with the permanent neutrality of Switzerland, the object of the stipulations relative to the contingent neutralisation of a part of Savoy, has no reason to fear that this interest, the importance of which we have thus recognised, will not be settled in a satisfactory manner.

SWITZERLAND AND SAVOY.

The *Moniteur* publishes the text of the treaty between France and Sardinia respecting the annexation of Savoy and Nice to France. The articles are as follow:—

Art. 1. His Majesty the King of Sardinia consents to the annexation (réunion) of Savoy and of the arrondissement of Nice (*Circondario di Nizza*) to France, and renounces for himself and all his descendants and successors his rights and claims to the said territories. It is agreed between their Majesties that this reunion shall be effected without any constraint upon the wishes of the populations, and that the Governments of the Emperor of the French and of the King of Sardinia shall concert together as soon as possible on the best means of appreciating and taking note of (*constater*) the manifestations of those wishes.

Art. 2. It is understood that his Majesty the King of Sardinia cannot transfer the neutralised portions of Savoy except upon the conditions upon which he himself possesses them, and that it will appertain to his Majesty the Emperor of the French to come to an understanding on that subject as well with the Powers represented at the Congress of Vienna as with the Helvetic Confederation, and to give them the guarantees which result from the stipulations alluded to in the present article.

Art. 3. A mixed commission will determine, in a spirit of equity, the frontiers of the two States, taking into account the configuration of the mountains and the necessity of defence.

Art. 4. One or more mixed commissions will be charged to examine and to resolve, within a brief delay, the divers incidental questions to which the annexation will give rise—such as the decision of the contribution of Savoy and of the arrondissement of Nice to the public debt of Sardinia, and the execution of the obligations resulting from contracts entered into with the Sardinian Government, which, however, engages to terminate itself the works commenced for cutting a tunnel through the Alps (Mont Cenis).

Art. 5. The French Government will take into account, as regards functionalities of the civil and military order belonging by their birth to the province of Savoy, or to the arrondissement of Nice, and who will become French subjects, the rights which they have acquired by services rendered to the Sardinian Government; they will especially enjoy the benefits of life appointments in the magistrature and of the guarantees assured to the army.

Art. 6. Sardinian subjects originally of Savoy, or of the arrondissement of Nice, or domiciled actually in those provinces, who would wish to maintain the Sardinian nationality, will enjoy during the period one year, dating from the exchange of the ratifications, and in virtue of a previous declaration made to the competent authorities, the faculty of removing their domicile to Italy, and settling there, in which case their qualifications as Sardinian citizens will remain to them. They will be at liberty to keep their landed property situate on the territory annexed to France.

Art. 7. For Sardinia the present treaty will become law as soon as the necessary legislative sanction has been given by the Parliament.

Art. 8. The present treaty shall be ratified and the ratifications exchanged at Turin within the delay of ten days, or earlier if possible.

The treaty is signed "Talleyrand, Benedetti, Cavour, Farini."

M. Kern, the Swiss Minister, has sent a note to the French Minister of Foreign Affairs announcing the intention of his Government to call for the intervention of Europe in the Savoy question.

Count Rechberg has communicated to M. Steiger, Chargé d'Affaires of Switzerland, the definitive reply of Austria to the protest against the annexation of Savoy addressed by the Federal Council to the great Powers. In reference to the annexation of Savoy, Austria declares that, after having ascertained the views of the other great Powers, she could not abandon the passive and reserved attitude which her real interests demand in that affair. As regards the neutrality of Switzerland and the neutralised districts of Chablais and Faucigny, Austria declares her readiness to join her good offices to those of the other great Powers for the fulfilment of the legitimate wishes of Switzerland, the more because the circular note of M. Thouvenel of the 13th ult. promised beforehand to respect the guarantees granted to Switzerland by the treaties of 1815.

A telegram from Vienna, dated April 3, says:—"It is asserted that three Northern Courts have agreed to occupy themselves with the demands of Switzerland simply in the usual diplomatic way, because the great Powers, by assembling in a Congress to consider the claims of Switzerland, would tacitly and implicitly recognise the legality of the annexation of Savoy to France. Therefore they intend to abstain from taking part in a Congress or Conference the object of which would be the settlement of the question of the annexation."

Two battalions of the 2nd French Regiment of the Line arrived at Nice on Sunday. The French papers say the troops met with an enthusiastic reception, that the population strewed flowers on their passage, and that all the houses were decorated with tri-coloured flags; of course the French colours are meant. Another account addressed directly by the President of the National Committee to Mr. Reuter's telegraphic-office here in London says that the attitude of the population was cold, and, what is of far greater importance, that disturbances had to be suppressed in the evening.

Colonel Zeigler, who had been dispatched by the Federal Council to take the command at Geneva, and is already installed, has reported to Berne on the reckless act of 150 men, mostly Savoyards, who seized upon the steamer *Aigle*, and attempted to take the port of Thonon, in Savoy, by force of arms. The Colonel's report treats it as an altogether unimportant affair, and contains the announcement that thirty of the enthusiasts were in custody. A large popular meeting at Geneva, at which 6000 persons attended, had disapproved of their act.

According to the French despatches the elections in Faucigny and Chablais have turned in the proportion of five to six in favour of annexation to France, so as to give the lie to the petition signed by 13,000 citizens in favour of annexation to Switzerland.

PROTEST OF AUSTRIA AGAINST THE ANNEXATION OF TUSCANY AND MODENA.

The Austrian Cabinet has resolved to protest solemnly against the annexation of Tuscany, Parma, and Modena to Piedmont. A note to this effect has been directly addressed to the Cabinet of Turin.

In this note Austria first establishes, by historical and legal considerations, developed at great length, her positive and incontestable right to oppose an act which, in despoiling legitimate Princes of the States guaranteed to them by European treaties, would also destroy the rights of succession and reversion which these same treaties secure to the house of Hapsburg with respect to the said States.

Austria then proceeds to demonstrate that Sardinia has participated in the engagements contracted by France, who, in consideration of the treaty of 1735, has guaranteed the possession of Tuscany to the house of Lorraine, in order to indemnify this dynasty for the cession of its ancestral heritage, Lorraine.

The note of Austria further recalls that, by virtue of the treaty concluded in 1753 by the mediation of George III., King of England, and countersigned by him in his quality of head of the house of Este, the right of succession in the Modenese States was conferred, in case of the extinction of the male line, upon the third son of the Emperor Francis Joseph and Maria Theresa, whom it was designed to unite to the grand-daughter of the Duke of Modena.

With respect to the Duchy of Parma and Piacenza, the treaty of the 10th of June, 1817, concluded between Austria, France, Great Britain, Prussia, Russia, and Sardinia, explicitly confirms in favour of Austria

the rights of reversion stipulated by the treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle, dated May 20, 1815. These rights of reversion have received a fresh sanction by the treaty of Florence, concluded on the 28th of November, 1844, between the Courts of Lucca, Modena, Tuscany, Sardinia, and Austria.

Thus, then, the King of Sardinia, in accepting the annexation of the Italian Duchies, openly violates, not only the public treaties of 1815, but also the treaties which he has signed as a direct contracting party with Austria. Such a violation is so much the more flagrant from having been accomplished upon the morrow after the peace of Villafranca and Zurich, of which the essential condition was the restoration of the legitimate Princes.

Induced by all these motives, Austria protests in the most peremptory manner against this most illegal annexation made by the King of Sardinia, and appeals to the conscience of Europe upon the subject.

To this end, at the same time that this protest is forwarded to Turin, a copy will be furnished to all the foreign Cabinets, to whom also a circular note is addressed by Austria, in which it is said "that Austria, in confining herself at the present time to protesting against the said annexation, hopes that Europe will recognise in this proceeding a most convincing proof of her desire to maintain the peace of the world."

INSURRECTIONARY MOVEMENT IN SPAIN.

On Tuesday we received intelligence that an insurrectionary movement of a rather serious character had taken place in Spain. Of course the Madrid telegrams make the affair appear as unimportant as possible. From them we learn that "General Ortega, Commander of the Balearic Isles, embarked the troops under his command (3000), and disembarked them near Tortosa. As soon as the troops obtained knowledge of his project they refused to follow him, and General Ortega was obliged to take to flight, pursued by his soldiers, who have remained faithful to the Queen. Perfect tranquillity prevails everywhere. Private advices say that General Concha sent troops against General Ortega, and that other troops were also dispatched from all parts of Spain to suppress the movement. The insurrection met with little sympathy. Several loyal addresses have been forwarded to the Queen. The Bank of Barcelona has offered 40,000,000 to the Government."

The Paris correspondent of the *Times* says:—"From my own private sources I learn that Count Montemolin, now proclaimed as Charles VI., arrived in Paris ten or twelve days back; that he met here Cabrera (with whom he became reconciled after a long estrangement), General Elio, and some others of less note; that he proceeded to the Balearic Islands, of which Ortega, formerly an ultra-democrat, was Captain-General; that Ortega and the garrison proclaimed Don Carlos; that they landed at Valencia, where they were well received, and Montemolin also proclaimed, it is said, by the troops. Montemolin was accompanied by Cabrera and Elio in the expedition—Elio, who is a native of Navarre, no doubt to try and raise the north, and Cabrera Catalonia and part of Valencia. A friend of Cabrera has advanced £24,000 to Montemolin."

FRANCE AND BELGIUM.

THE Belgian papers describe the contents of a circular which the French Minister of Foreign Affairs has recently addressed to French agents abroad relative to Belgium. M. Thouvenel remarks, that of the two anti-French combinations established in 1815, one, the transfer of the French slopes to Sardinia, has just been rectified, while the other, the foundation of the kingdom of the Netherlands, was rectified in 1831 by the separation of Belgium from Holland, and the creation of the Belgian monarchy, the neutrality of which, guaranteed by Europe, is of great interest to France. The Government of the Emperor has never had the idea of putting in question a work so full of wisdom, and altogether so favourable to France, and which French diplomacy has contributed to establish since 1831.

The *Independence* says:—"We record these declarations with the more satisfaction from the reason that they interest not only Belgium but also England and Prussia, whose attitude in favour of Switzerland is explained by their fears of an extension of the frontiers of France to the Rhine."

THE ANGLO-FRENCH ALLIANCE.

AN article in the *Constitutionnel* regretting any difference between England and France about Savoy, and expressing a belief that such discussions, though regrettable, could not injure the alliance, appeared on Saturday. The writer laments that the difference in question has arisen; first, because he conceives the Savoy question not to have required it; and next, because any circumstance tending to weaken the good feeling of the two nations towards each other is much to be deprecated. We give some extracts from this article, evidently inspired:—

The discussion about Savoy is now exhausted, and we will not revert to it. We will only appeal from the English Parliament to all England, and submit to public opinion some reflections which have occurred to us in consequence of the tone and character of those debates, which are as sterile as they are irritating. We do this with the more confidence that we have never confounded the English nation with some of its most violent representatives. It is neither Sir R. Peel, crushed by the weight of the paternal inheritance; nor Mr. Kingslake, the unappreciated poet; nor Mr. Horsman, whom his constituents have just repudiated in so striking a manner; nor even a Whig Minister, who appears to disregard the part which has been assigned to the Liberal Cabinet of which he is one of the principal members. It is none of these Parliamentary personages who in our eyes represent really the English people. Still less is it any journal, whether it be called the *Times*, the *Daily News*, or the *Morning Herald*. No. Behind the privileged benches of the Lords and the noisy seats of the Commons is the mass of the nation which judges on appeal. Now, we know that the nation, fully understanding its real interests, has already condemned both the excess of language in the Houses of Parliament and the unexampled license which the journals permit themselves to employ.

In reference to certain sarcastic observations made by some of the London journals on the manner in which the discussions are conducted in the French Legislative Chamber, the article says:—

Suppose that, quitting the line of moderation it has always followed, and changing its system, the Imperial Government were to say to the Legislative Body, "Harangues for harangues! Like the English troops at Fontenoy, the deputies of England have fired first; it is now your turn, deputies of France!" and that, addressing itself to the journals, it were to say, "Articles for articles, diatribes for diatribes! Reply, retort, calumniate as you will! Follow the example of the newspapers at the other side of the Channel!"—suppose, we ask, this were done, what would be the consequences?

The answer is, that the French people, being of an impulsive nature, would be promptly worked up to such a state of irritation against England that any attempt to pacify them would be found impossible, and that a rupture would be the inevitable result. The writer on this point observes:—

It may be that in England the people, calmer, more positive, and, if you will, more reflective, may be little moved by these daily declamations. The same, however, would not be the same in France, where the public sentiment is easily alarmed, and the national sentiment quickly wounded. It is forgotten too much that the people of France have passed through terrible trials, and have retained dangerous reminiscences. Sufficient account, in particular, is not taken of the significant circumstance that it required the all-powerful prestige of the name of Napoleon to cause our alliance with Great Britain to be accepted up to a certain point. As for ourselves, we have said more than once that this alliance, politically considered, was greatly to the honour of the Government of Napoleon III. It has, in our opinion, represented the triumph of all generous ideas; for, in order to maintain it, the Emperor has had to trample under foot the animosity and the hatred of an epoch still recent.

The article terminates in these words:—

The English alliance is still the personification of progress; and that is enough for us. We may go further, and say that this alliance is so intimately connected with modern ideas and necessities that we do not think any partial disagreement will be strong enough to break it. Lord John Russell may have said, in an oratorical outburst much to be regretted, that England, on certain points, would not follow France in future; he did not add that she would separate from her; and he was right. In the opinion of

every sensible statesman a good understanding between the two great Western Powers is more than desirable—it is a necessity. When enemies, England and France divide the world; when friends, they unite and tranquillise it. The hostile rivalry of the two nations would be the signal for new struggles and calamities. Their union, on the contrary, is the triumph of civilisation; it is the guarantee of progress in its regular development. In presence of such an alternative what Minister, what orator, what journalist could hesitate? Who would lightly risk an issue so tremendous?

The *Nord* has an article on the Anglo-French alliance. "Is it broken?" it asks. "The *Times* says Yes; the *Journal des Débats* and the *Pays*, No. Which account is the true one? We ourselves think them not irreconcilable." The writer asks if there really has been a cordial alliance since the Russian war? Since the Treaty of Paris the relations between England and France have been more those of a negative than of a positive alliance. They have been allies, if the common resolution not to make war can be so interpreted; and it must be confessed that France has been the more accommodating State of the two. We are far from a rupture, however; and the Anglo-French alliance will long remain, what it has been up to the present time, a tacit understanding between two nations not to incur the terrible results of a collision. Every chance is in favour of the maintenance of these relations with, perhaps, fewer outward signs of official friendship; and, on the part of France, a juster appreciation of the value of the alliance.

THE FRAUDS ON THE AUSTRIAN GOVERNMENT.

A letter from Trieste describes some of the extraordinary frauds which have recently been practised on the Austrian Government:—

The deficit amounts to the astounding sum of no less than 17,000,000 florins, or £1,700,000 sterling, of which 3,000,000 florins, or £300,000, is laid to the charge of some of the leading capitalists of this city. One was imprisoned, two have fled, and others are undergoing forced examinations of books, papers, documents, &c. The strangest part of the tale is, however, that which is certainly the least known. It is said, and from the sources whence I hear it I believe it is true, that at the celebrated meeting of the rival Emperors which led to the armistice, and subsequently to the preliminaries of the treaty of peace at Villafranca, when Napoleon and Francis Joseph were left *quasi* alone for nearly three-quarters of an hour, the former, addressing the latter, said, "Your Majesty would do well to listen to friendly and well-meant counsels. You are surrounded by traitors. Your Majesty believes that your fortress of Mantua is provisioned for six months; I tell you," emphatically raising his finger, "it has not food for as many days. Test my information, and act accordingly." And so it proved, and afforded another lesson also of the infinite superiority of the French over the Austrian system of espionage.

To give some idea of the barefaced effrontery of the fraud, and the number of accomplices necessary, one instance will suffice, though, if needful, I could adduce many others. Mantua is a walled city, and the bullocks which were driven in at one gate passed through the town out at the opposite, and then, making the half circuit of the walls, re-entered at the first gate, and every bullock made this parade five times! The richest part of the tale in connection with Mantua is yet to come. A firm in Trieste made a contract with the Austrian Government for the hides of the bullocks supplied for the use of the troops. Now, although each bullock did duty living for five, still he could only be killed once, and supply one hide. The contractors, therefore, called upon, and actually received from the Government the forfeit, as stipulated by contract, of one florin of every hide short delivered; thus profiting to the extent of 30,000 florins for the non-delivery of the skins of the animals which had never been killed!

THE AMERICAN QUARREL IN MEXICO.

THE following intelligence relative to the new difficulties which have arisen between the United States and Mexico is brought by a late mail:—

On the 6th of March two steamers, the *General Miramon* and the *Marques*, which left Havannah to aid Miramon in his designs against Vera Cruz, appeared before that city, and refused to show their colours. Commander Jarvis (the Commodore of the American squadron) consequently ordered the sloop-of-war *Saratoga*, with a detachment from the ships *Savannah* and *Preble*, in the steamers *Indianola* and *Wave*, to proceed to the anchorage and ascertain the character of the two strange steamers. As the *Saratoga*, towed by the *Indianola*, approached them, they tried to escape, but were too late. Captain Turner then sent a boat with a flag to demand the nationality of the steamers. The boat was fired upon twice, whereupon the *Saratoga* fired a broadside into the *General Miramon*, and the action became general. Both steamers now hoisted the Spanish flag, and, after a spirited engagement, Marin, the commander of the expedition, surrendered, and was taken prisoner, with most of his men. The American loss was three wounded, one mortally. The Mexican loss was fifteen killed, and twenty or thirty wounded.

The two captured steamers arrived below New Orleans on the 19th ult. in charge of United States' officers. The steamer *Marques* had on board a portion of the prisoners taken, and the United States' sloop-of-war *Preble* was expected at New Orleans in a few days with the remainder. Great excitement existed at Vera Cruz in consequence of the action of the American squadron. The French and English residents, in particular, were very bitter in their denunciation of the affair. The ex-qua-tor of the American Consul at Vera Cruz had been revoked.

On the night of the 7th ult. Miramon made an attack in force on Vera Cruz, but he was soon repulsed by the Liberals. On the 15th Miramon commenced bombarding the city, but caused little damage. It was reported that Miramon had afterwards abandoned the siege, deserted his army, and taken refuge on board a French ship of war. The city was in the best state of defence, and the garrison was composed of 3000 or 4000 men. General Iglesias was in command. General Lane, an Englishman, was in command of a new sand fort recently erected near the city, mounting six 84-pounders.

The city of Mexico was surrounded by the Liberals.

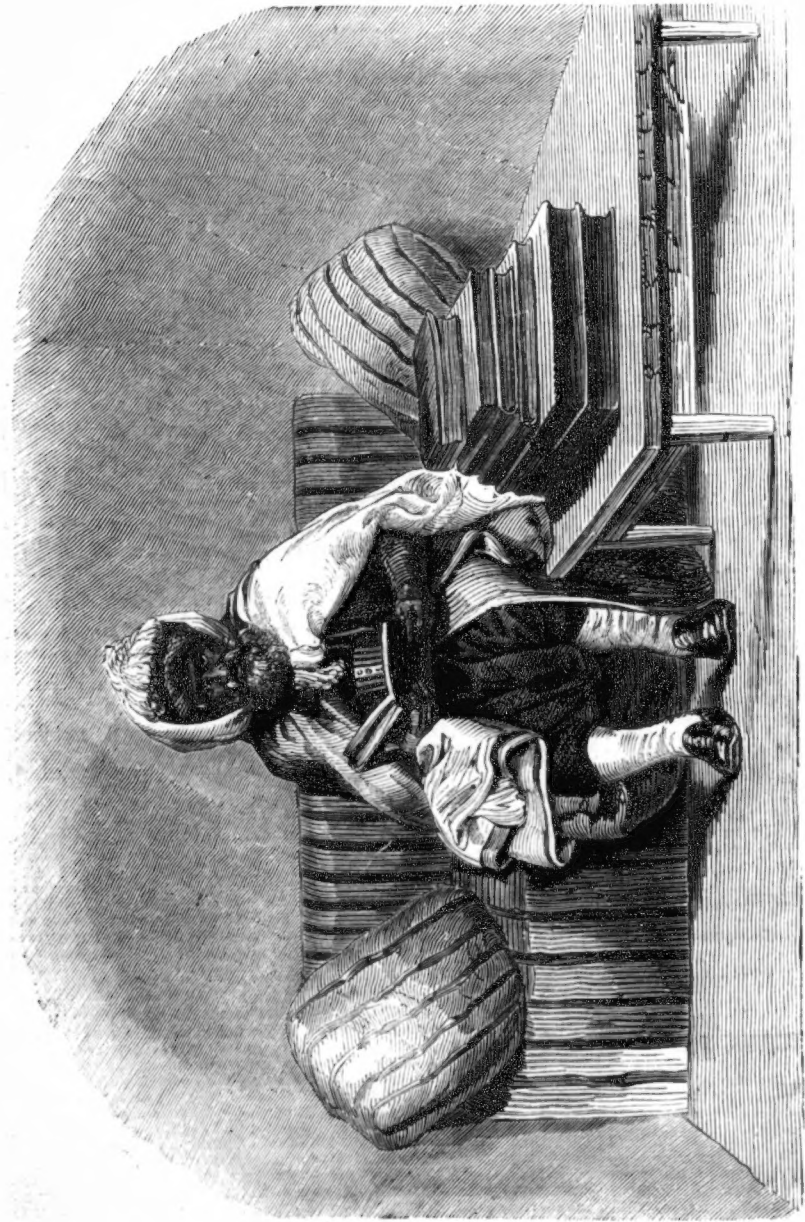
A Washington telegram, written before the news of the proceedings at Vera Cruz was known, says:—

Mr. M'Lane carries explicit and emphatic instructions to Vera Cruz to land troops for the protection of the American consulate and citizens and property. He refused to return upon discretionary or general orders, knowing that the Administration would fix the responsibility upon him in case of any serious turn in events. He is also instructed to disregard the blockade that Miramon may attempt by vessels from Havannah upon the ground that it is an obstruction to commerce. Orders of a like character, but less distinct, were recently issued to the commander of the home squadron, who is now required to confer with Mr. M'Lane before taking any final step.

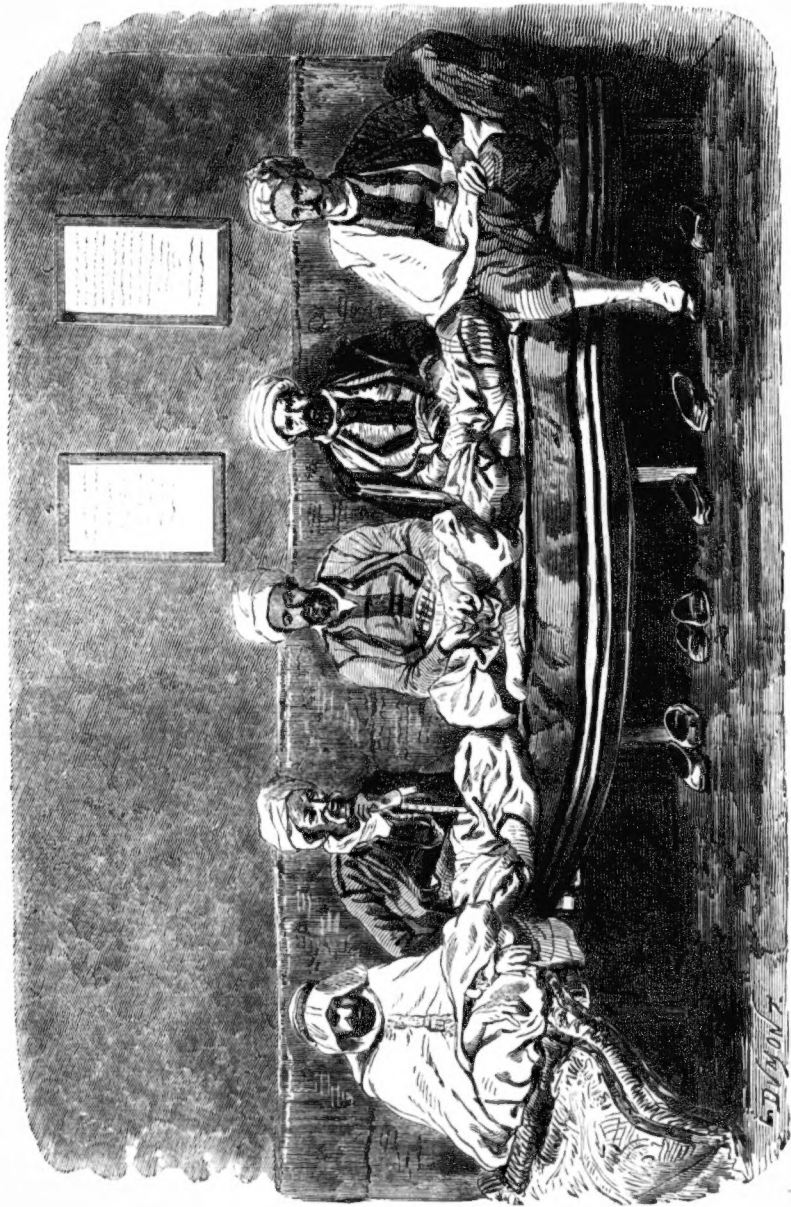
The President has communicated his instructions to Mr. M'Lane, confidentially, to the Senate in reply to a resolution. On the 24th of May, and on the 30th of July last, he was authorised to offer 10,000,000 dollars for Lower California and the right of way from the Rio Grande to Mazatlan, and from Arizona to Guaymas. Juarez desired a separate treaty for this purpose, and the negotiation finally fell through.

Washington correspondence to the 23rd ult. states that the capture of the steamers *General Miramon* and *Marques* by the American squadron perplexes the Administration, and, if the charge of piracy is sustained, 200 prisoners must be hung.

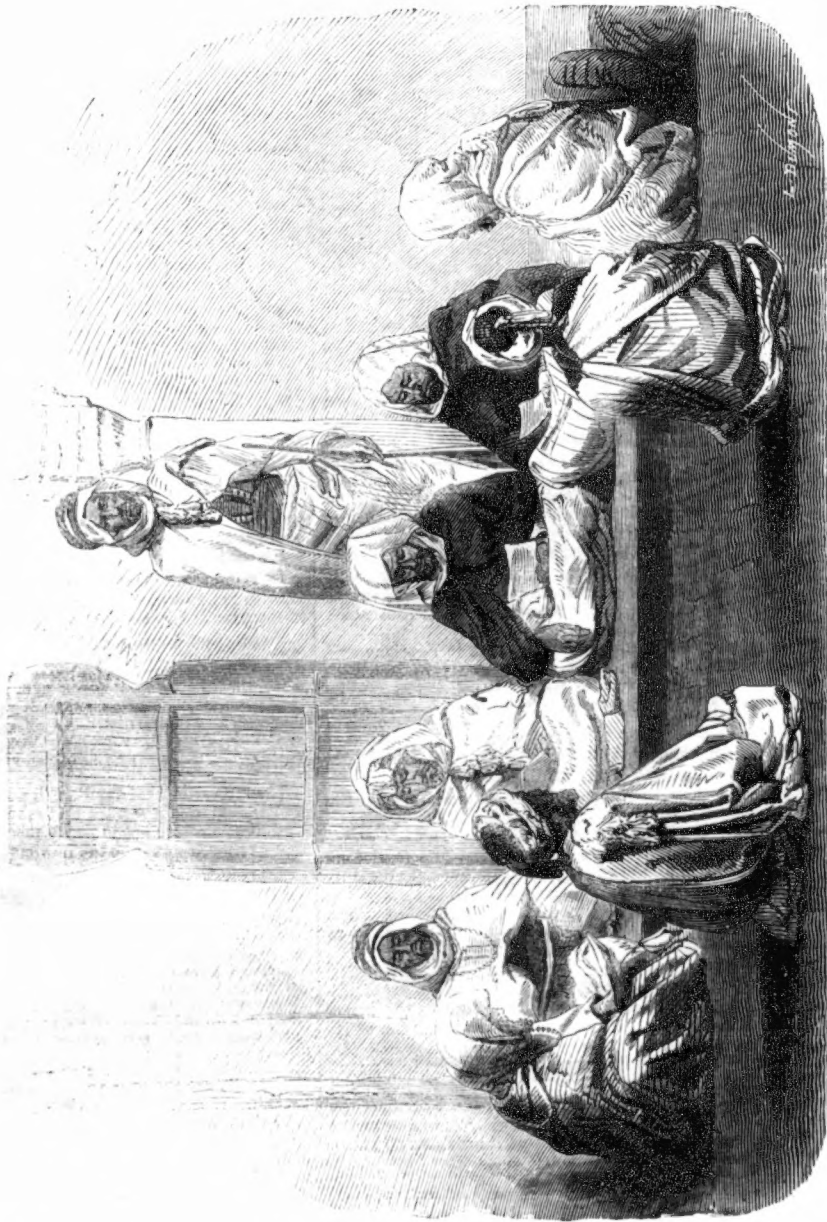
THE RIGHTS OF WOMEN.—A bill has just passed the New York Legislature, and now awaits the Governor's approval, providing that the property of a married woman (real or personal, inherited, bequeathed, or earned by any labour or business on her own sole account) shall remain her own, and shall not be subject to the interference or control of her husband, or liable for his debts, except such debts as may have been contracted for the support of herself or her children, by her as his agent. Contracts for the conveyance of real estates are not to be valid without the husband's assent; but if he be insane, or imprisoned, or habitually drunken, or refuse his assent without reason, the wife may obtain leave of a county court to make the conveyance without her husband's signature. Married women may sue in person, and are liable to be sued, in respect to their personal property as if they were sole. Any married woman may bring an action in her own name for damages for any injury to her person or character, the same as if she were sole; and the money received upon the settlement of any such action is to be her separate property. No bargain or contract entered into by a married woman, in respect of her separate property or business, is to be binding on the husband. Every married woman is constituted joint guardian of her children with her husband, with equal powers, rights, and duties in regard to them. At the decease of husband or wife, leaving no minor child or children, the survivor shall possess a life estate in one-third of all the real estate of which the husband or wife died seized. At the decease of the husband or wife, intestate, leaving minor child or children, the survivor shall possess all the real estate of which the husband or wife died seized, and all the rents and profits thereof during the minority of the youngest child, and one-third during his or her natural life.



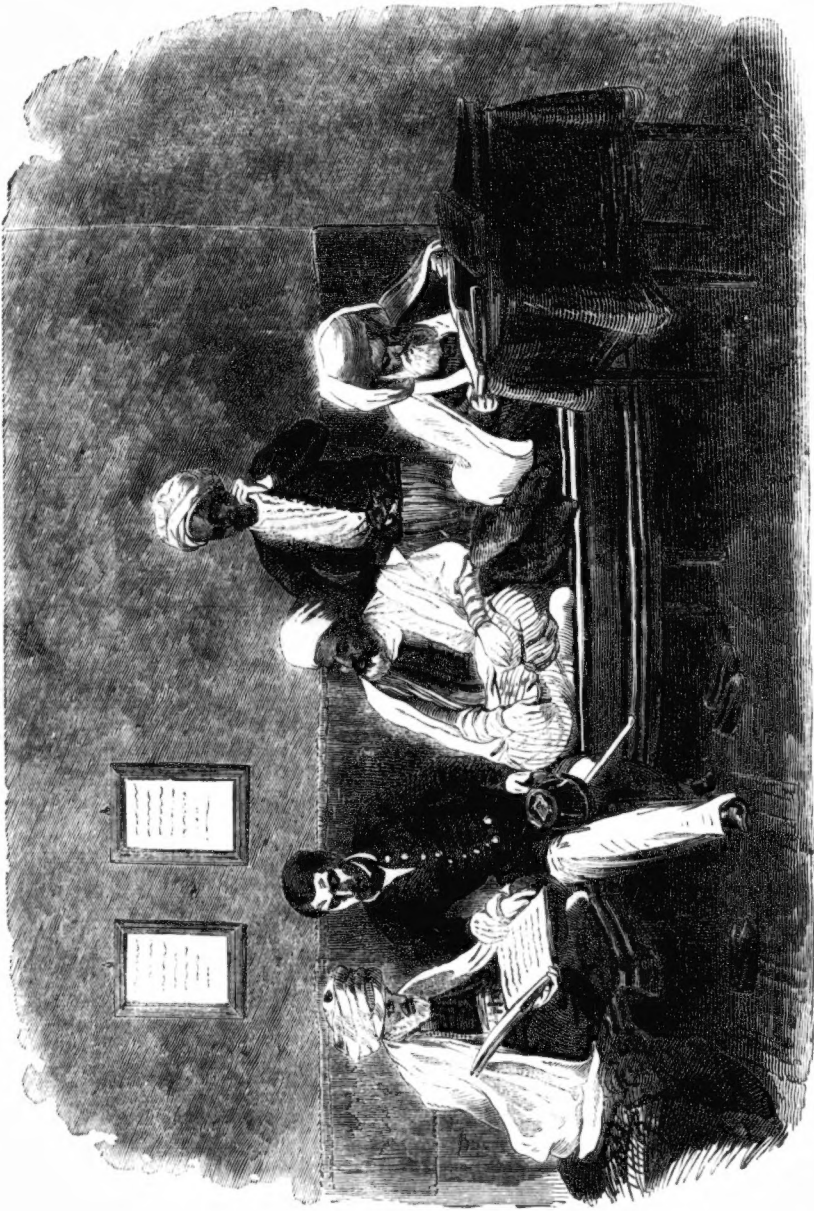
CADI—POLICE MAGISTRATE.



AMINS—COURT OF CONCILIATION.



MEJLES—COURT OF APPEAL.



NATIVE ALGERIAN TRIBUNALS.

BIT EL-MAL—CHANCERY COURT.

NATIVE ALGERIAN TRIBUNALS

The first step taken by the French in Algeria towards a direct method of governing the native races in the conquered territory was the introduction of the *Bureau Arabe*. The tribes at first were only communicated with by means of interpreters alone; but the inconvenience of this plan was soon felt, these agents not being at all times thoroughly trustworthy. The intention of the institution was to form a corps of officers of different grades, who should be perfectly acquainted with Arabic, and would be charged with the duty of communicating, personally and by letter, with the native authorities. The principal officer of the corps was stationed at Algiers; and officers of less rank were posted at the head-quarters of the different commands, each having a necessary staff of clerks and a native secretary.

The powers of the *Chefs-de-Bureau* were very great, and their duties were multifarious; they exercised certain judicial functions, and, in some cases, were empowered to order executions on the spot. They were intrusted with the levying of taxes and contributions; and laid before the General and other officers commanding stations constant reports of the state of the country and the dispositions of the tribes.

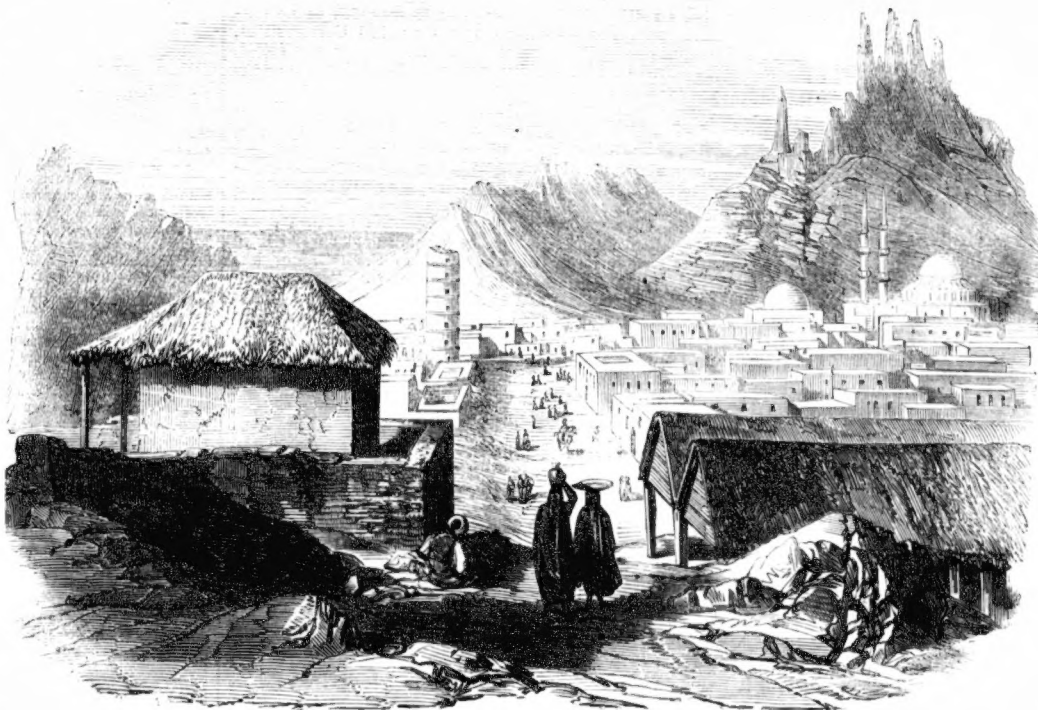
The three provinces of Algeria attached to France consist of fifteen subdivisions, and these are again composed of from forty to forty-five circles. In each circle there is a "*Bureau Arabe*," composed as follows:—A chief and his assistants, a *cadi* and assessors, a French and an Arab secretary, an office-keeper, and a few *Spahis*, to convey orders and furnish escorts when required. Such is the formation of the institution through which the military commander rules the native population; and he is, of necessity, much influenced by the *Chefs de Bureau*, whose powers and responsibilities are in consequence considerable.

An apparently well-founded complaint against the *Bureau* was the imperfect manner in which they exercised their judicial functions. Young and inexperienced officers were often deputed to hear the causes, and occasionally exhibited a harshness in manner and language towards the accused and witnesses quite unjustifiable, and calculated to lower whatever opinion the native may have formed of his European conquerors.

A modification of this system has recently been introduced which places the distribution of justice more in the hands of the native population. The tribunals shown in our Engraving have been established, and the manner in which they work is extremely satisfactory. Not a single instance has, we believe, come to light of the members of the courts acting dishonestly; and, should there be any inclination to this, the fact of an officer of the "*Bureau Arabe*" acting in concert with the native Judges serves as a check to both.

ADEN.

ADEN is a town and seaport of Arabia, in the province of Yemen, situated to the east of the Straits of Bab-el-Mandeb. The Arabs believe it to have derived its name from Aden, the son of Saba and grandson of Abraham. It was formerly an opulent and flourishing city, covering as much space as Mocha, Jedda, or Suez; but it subsequently lost



TOWN OF ADEN.

greatly, and dwindled into comparative insignificance. It is built on a small flat, probably the bottom of a crater, surrounded by precipitous rocks, on the east side of a peninsula formed by two fine bays, in one of which, opposite the town, is the fortified island of Sirah, which commands the approach. The peninsula is connected with the mainland by a neck of flat, sandy ground only a few feet high. Both the peninsula and the mainland present the most desolate aspect; not a tree or a shrub is to be seen, and the heat is intolerable. With all this the place is, however, healthy.

Since its occupation by the British, Aden has been constituted a free port, and no duties of customs are now levied there. Its trade has steadily increased, and there seems little doubt that it must again become the principal emporium for the products of Arabia and the shores of the Red Sea. As a coal depot no place on the coast is so advantageous. It divides the distance between Bombay and Suez, and steamers may unload and load at all seasons with perfect security. It is also one of the telegraph stations through which England will flash her messages to India when the wires that are to unite our Eastern possessions with the home country shall be laid down.

Aden has not unfrequently changed its rulers. At the commencement of the sixteenth century a Portuguese naval force, proceeding to the Red Sea, touched at Aden. The Arabian chief offered to surrender the town, but the Portuguese proposed to defer its occupation till the return of the expedition. In the meantime, however, reinforcements were received, and the chief refused to fulfil his engagement. Subsequently, however, the Portuguese became its possessors, but, after a brief tenure, were expelled by the Turks in 1538. In the following

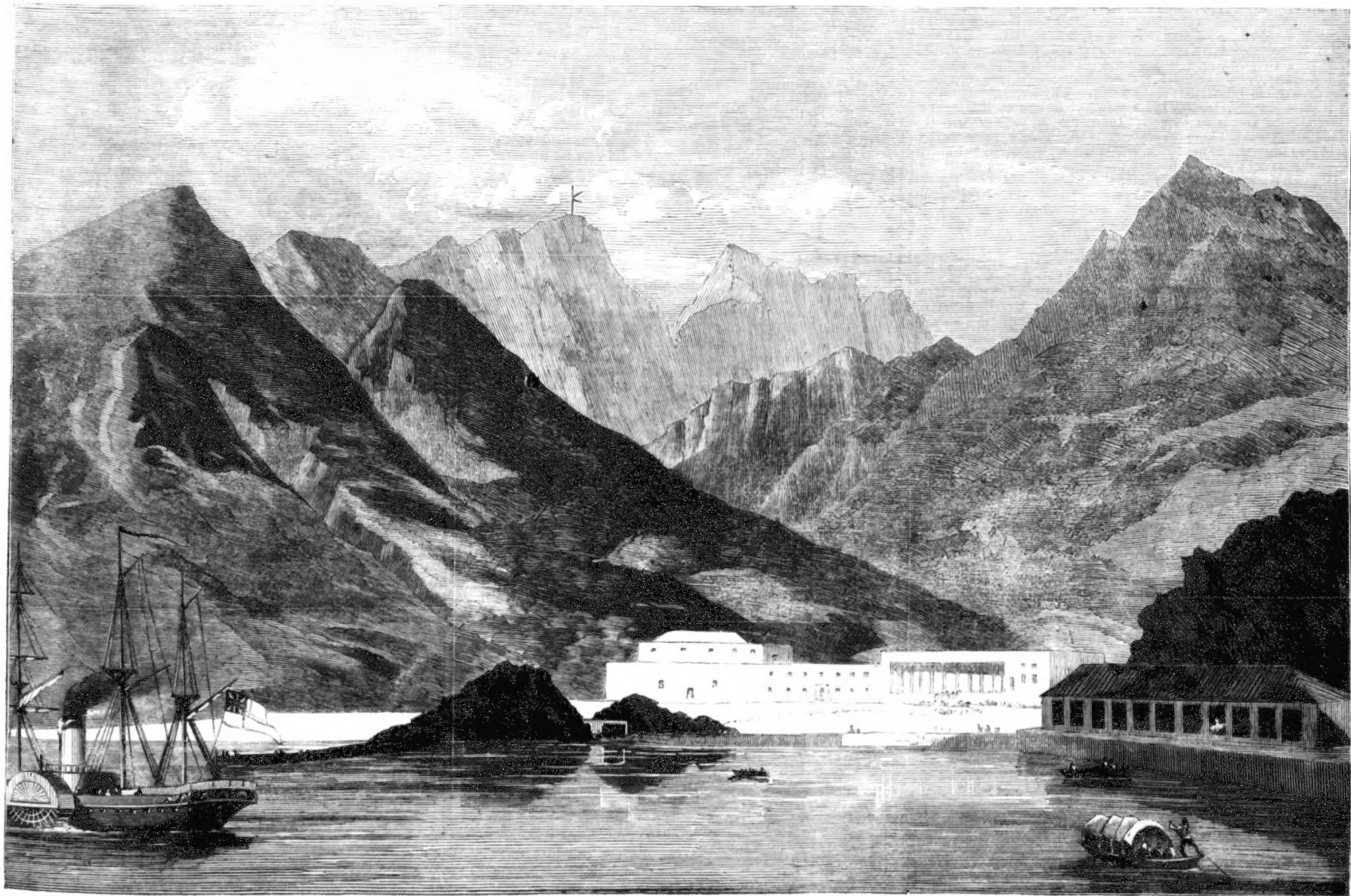
century the Turks relinquished their conquests in Yemen, and withdrew their troops from the province, when the Sultan of Semia established a supremacy over Aden, which was maintained until towards the middle of the last century. The Sheikh of Lahide then threw off his allegiance and established in his own family the line of independent Sultans of Aden.

The circumstances under which the British became masters of the place may be briefly stated. In 1837 a ship under British colours was wrecked near Aden, her cargo plundered, and the crew and passengers grievously maltreated by the Sultan's people. An explanation of the outrage being demanded by the Bombay Government, the Sultan promised compensation for the plunder of the vessel, and, moreover, agreed to make a formal cession of the town and port of Aden to the British for a pecuniary consideration. Captain Haines, of the Indian Navy, had been deputed to Aden to complete these arrangements, but the Sultan's son, who now exercised the powers of government, met the requisition of the British agent by language and conduct the most violent and insulting. A combined naval and military force was thereupon dispatched to Aden, and the place was captured on the 16th of January, 1839, with trifling loss on the part of the British. A stipendiary allowance was made to the Sultan, who, however, retains the whole of his other territories.

When the Red Sea steamer arrives off Aden, the natives, in frailties of canoes and lumbering boats—the castaways of the merchantmen of all nations—paddle to the ship. The crew are lank, lean, knock-

kneed, hollow-thighed, calfless, lark-heeled, flat-footed, undersized, bullet-headed, narrow-chested Simaulees—genuine children of the African littoral. The savages paint their faces, and wear huge wigs of hair dyed a dull scarlet, which, contrasting with their black physiognomy, renders their aspect more frightful than pantomimic masks. Some boats are pulled by tawny Arabs—a race of men as superior to the Simaulee as the thoroughbred horse is superior to the donkey. A brisk little naval engagement alongside between the rival boats terminates in the capture of the passengers, who go on shore to escape from a steamer coaling, with the thermometer at 92° in the shade, even though the shore is that of Aden. The landing-place is a rude pier leading to a bank of rough shingle and hot sand, whereon at some distance is placed the row of three or four white houses, that look so white and nice from the sea, but that do not improve on closer acquaintance. The centre bears over the door the legend of the "Prince of Wales Hotel," and it is in that establishment that the mosquito-bitten, sweltering passengers, indifferently pass their time till the steamer's signal-gun warns them that the steam is again up, and the voyage is to be resumed.

ENGLISH VINTNERS IN FRENCH VINEYARDS.—"Since the conclusion of the treaty of commerce with England," says the *Journal du Havre*, "agents of London firms have been visiting our vineyards to purchase wines and brandies. In Provence and in Languedoc alone purchases already exceed the sum of 20,000,000*l.*, and at Cognac, 15,000 hectolitres of brandies have been bought."



COALING STATION, ADEN

INNER LIFE OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.—NO. 124.

A ROW IN THE HOUSE.

THERE was a scene in the House one night last week. The question before the House at the time was the Dover packet matter, and the doings of the Admiralty and Mr. Churchward. Mr. Gladstone was speaking in reply to Mr. Whiteside, when suddenly Mr. Whiteside leaped on to his feet to interrupt Mr. Gladstone with an explanation. Now, usually, when a member rises to interpolate an explanation whilst another member is speaking the gentleman in possession of the House drops into his seat and allows the explanation to be made; but, though this is usually done, there is no law upon the matter, and if the gentleman speaking chooses to keep his ground and refuses to allow the interruption, he is, by the rules of the House, perfectly at liberty to do so. Mr. Gladstone thought that no explanation was required, and he therefore kept standing, and refused to give way. Whether Mr. Gladstone might not as well have allowed the explanation is a question; but that he was right in law is unquestionable; and when Mr. Whiteside saw that his opponent kept on his legs he ought at once to have resumed his seat. But Mr. Whiteside is an Irishman—one of the most excitable of that excitable race; his blood, moreover, was up, and so he kept his ground, and for several minutes we had as beautiful a row as the lovers of rows, whether Irish or English, could wish to see. On one side of the table stood Mr. Gladstone, on the opposite side Mr. Whiteside, whilst each party was backing its man with vociferous cries. "Gladstone! Gladstone!" shouted the Liberals. "Whiteside! Whiteside!" cried the stentorian Conservatives, whilst not a few members added to the confusion by shouting "Order! order!" "Chair! chair!" "Down! down!" Mr. Gladstone looked pale and agitated, and every one might see that he felt he was out of place in such a row. Mr. Whiteside tried to look defiant and cool, but he did not succeed well; at all events, the perspiration which bubbled out on his forehead, and which he kept continually wiping away with his handkerchief, showed unmistakably that he was not cool.

HOW THE LATE SPEAKER WOULD HAVE DEALT WITH IT.

Under the firm rule of the late Speaker Mr. Whiteside would have been instantly put down; for, when these two gentlemen stood defiantly fronting each other, that most able Speaker, if he had been in the chair, would have promptly risen—peremptorily ordered both to their seats—and then delivered his dictum with an authority which even Mr. Whiteside, with all his Irish blood, would not have dared to gainsay. But Mr. Lefevre is gone; and, if the English Parliament should last for a thousand years, it will never see his like again. Mr. Speaker did, after a time, rise, and decide that Mr. Gladstone was right, and that Mr. Whiteside was wrong; but Mr. Whiteside kept his ground notwithstanding. And thus a very dangerous precedent has been established, out of which it is impossible to say what rebellions, mutinies, and general disorders may not arise. In the House of Lords the Peers themselves decide what is orderly and what is not. In the Commons it is the law that the Speaker's dictum is final; but here is a case in which this rule has been openly and flagrantly broken; and, if this case be not "recorded as a precedent," we may be sure it will be very soon acted upon.

PARTY MANŒUVRES.—MOVE ONE.

On the Thursday following we had another row, but that was an orderly row—by which we mean a row not "out of order." To give our readers a clear idea of this row it will be necessary concisely to explain the position of affairs on that night. Well, on Thursday there were two "orders of the day" upon the paper, of great importance, and which the Government were very anxious to pass—to wit, the order for the "consideration of the Income Tax Bill as amended," and the order for going into Committee on the Stamp Duties Bill. These two bills it was deemed necessary by the Government to get passed before Easter; and to further this object it was proposed, early in the evening, to postpone "the notices of motion" (which on Thursdays have precedence of "orders of the day") until these bills had been considered. But her Majesty's Opposition resisted this proposition, for a reason well known and openly talked about in the lobbies and at the clubs, though not avowed in the House. The reason was this. For Friday night the adjourned debate on the second reading of the Reform Bill was on the paper, and her Majesty's Opposition saw plainly that if the two bills in question could be pushed over to Friday night all the time of that night could be occupied in talking about them, and that the Reform Bill would, in all probability, be postponed till after the Easter holidays. Mr. Lindsay, too, resisted the Government proposition, and other members on the Liberal side of the House. Why Mr. Lindsay resisted it is plain, for Mr. Lindsay had a notice of motion on the paper on "Differential Duties on Cargoes," and it was not to be expected that Mr. Lindsay would forego the opportunity of making a speech thereon. It is true there was no opposition to Mr. Lindsay's motion, and gentlemen outside may possibly not see the necessity for long speeches on unopposed motions. They may think that when a member can get what he wants without a speech he would be glad to get rid of the trouble of making one; but such is not the reasoning inside the House. Here we never neglect an opportunity for making a speech. On the contrary, we not only seize every opportunity that offers for talk, but if opportunities will not readily offer themselves we take no little trouble to make them. Whether any solid good is to be secured or not by talk—whether men will hear or forbear is not of much consequence: talk we must, and talk we will. And so the House generally opposed the proposition; and of course Mr. Gladstone was obliged to withdraw it, and her Majesty's Opposition gained a very important move.

A PROBLEM.

During the discussion on the Stamp Duties Bill a curious problem turned up, which we will lay before our readers, that they may ponder over it and attempt its solution during the Easter holidays. By this bill it was proposed to repeal an Act of Parliament called Sir Robert Barnard's Act. What this Act is, and what it enacted, is nothing to our purpose. This Act was limited for three years, but was perpetuated by another Act; and the question arose—Would a repeal of the first Act necessarily repeal the second? Or, to put the question in a categorical form—A is an Act that was to last only three years, B is an Act that perpetuates A, C is an Act which repeals A. Query—does C, by repealing A, repeal B? This is the problem, and a beautiful problem it is. Just fancy the seraphic doctors of the schools in the middle ages arguing over such a question as this. Or, what is more perhaps to our purpose, imagine a poor client listening in a Nisi Prius Court to the softly-flowing, silvery eloquence of her Majesty's Attorney-General on such a question, and to the pertinacious, unwearied, sleuth-hound oratory of Sir Fitzroy Kelly in reply. The argument of Mr. Edwin James is that—A is revived by B, and that, if you wish to kill this law, you must kill B as well as A. The argument of the Solicitor-General is that A alone is the Act, B is only a perpetuation of the Act, and that, if you obliterate the Act, you necessarily destroy its perpetuation. However, do not be alarmed, gentle readers; no poor unfortunate client will ever be called upon to pay for the eloquence of either her Majesty's present or late Attorney-General, for Mr. Gladstone has wisely, and happily for the public, withdrawn the clause which was meant to repeal A, and has introduced a bill that is to repeal both A and B, or, in other words, both the creation and resurrection of Sir Robert Barnard's Act.

MOVE TWO, AND CHECKMATE.

Move one this was, but there was still another to be taken; and if that should be successful the Government would be checkmated, and the victory thus far would be complete. The case then stood thus, as the Conservatives, chuckling over their success, moved off to dinner. The bills had been pushed off until the notices of motion should be disposed of; but still they stood on the paper, and in due course they would be called, and then they must be again thrown over till the next night, if possible. And so, as the Conservatives filed off to dinner, the words were passed, "You can go now, but mind you come back at twelve." This was the *mot d'ordre*,

"Come back at twelve;" and it was well obeyed, for as the hour of twelve approached the Conservative benches rapidly filled, and when the clerk called on "The Income Tax Bill as amended to be considered" there could not have been less than 150 Conservatives, staunch and true, to oppose its progress. When the order was called, Mr. Gladstone moved that "the bill be now considered," and then the row began, and for half an hour the fun was fast and furious. The leader of the Opposition was on this occasion Colonel Dunne. It was on the part of Ireland that he spoke. He had much to say upon the subject, &c., &c., and he moved the adjournment of the debate, as he could not possibly think of making his statement at that late hour of the night. Loud cheers and laughter followed this speech of the gallant Colonel, for now all affectation was abandoned, and the Conservative policy was fairly unmasked. After Colonel Dunne the Chancellor rose, and explained that the gallant Colonel could make his statement on the third reading; but the gallant Colonel was equal to the occasion, and promptly replied, "But I can move no amendment then." This sally was received with loud laughter and cheers, for, of course, the gallant Colonel had no amendment to move. After this there was confusion and disorder which no pen can accurately chronicle. Mr. Ayrton suggested—my Lord John Manners protested—Mr. Malins put a question—Mr. Sheridan again moved the adjournment, although it had already been moved, and was then under discussion—Mr. Malins demanded an answer to his question—and, when the Chancellor rose to answer him, Lord John Manners jumped up, and insisted that the Chancellor could not speak, as he had spoken before. Here Mr. Speaker interposed, and mildly hinted that "it is not unusual to allow a Minister to explain in such a state of things;" but when, upon this hint, Mr. Gladstone again got up, he was met with such a loud burst of cries that he was obliged to sit down. At length, however, the storm lulled, and a division was called, but no division was taken, for, on counting heads, the Government gave way, and once more her Majesty's Opposition gained a triumph. It is noteworthy that Mr. Disraeli was not present. On such occasions as these he seldom is. He probably deems it below the dignity of a leader to figure in such mêlées. After the row the Opposition consented to the passing of the Stamp Duties Bill through Committee, and then in a body left the House, bursting out of it and laughing and gabbling like a school broke loose for the holidays.

WHERE WERE THE LIBERALS?

It will probably be suggested to our readers to ask where the Liberals were all this time? Why were they not down? Are they not the strongest party? How was it that they did not come to the rescue? Well, these are pertinent questions, no doubt; but they are more easily asked than answered. It was well known that this fight would come on, and the Liberal whips were not idle, we may rely upon it; but their exertions, somehow, failed of success; for, whilst the Conservative benches were crowded, the Government side of the House was very thinly attended; indeed, had the Government pressed the division which was called, it was easy to see that they would have been beaten by a large majority; and it was specially noticeable that on the seats below the gangway the attendance was most meagre. The Whigs were present in considerable force, but as you approached the extreme right the attendance thinned off rapidly, and in the extremest right there were only some half dozen members present. Now, as this was practically a fight for the Reform Bill, this absence of the Liberals was not a little remarkable. How are we to account for it? We will not try. It is "inscrutable."

THE WITTLERS' BATTLE.

The "wittlers' battle" has now fairly begun. The batteries were opened against them on Monday night. When the fight will end no one can foresee, for this is a subject which will call up no end of speakers, and evoke talk beyond measure. On Monday the "wittlers" were down at the House in great strength, and, marshalled by Mr. Smith, the secretary of their society, made a formidable appearance in the gallery. But, alas for the "wittlers!" we fear, or rather hope, that there is no chance for them. It was expected that the Conservatives would make a party question of the License Bill, but this expectation has failed. Indeed, the most damaging speech yet delivered in the House was made by Mr. Ker Seymour, a staunch Conservative, and the cheers which greeted his attacks upon the licensing system must have rung like a death knell in the ears of the poor "wittlers" up stairs. The metropolitan members will fight hard for them, no doubt, as hard as lawyers do for the clients from whom they have received fees, and the teetotalers will also strenuously advocate the cause of their new allies; but it will be all of no avail, we think. Hitherto it has been the doctrine that the public were made for "wittlers;" but now it has become a prevalent notion that "wittlers" are made for the public. A false opinion this to the great "pot interest," and if it should spread there is no knowing what disasters to that interest it may produce. As for Gladstone, it is clear that he treats all the groans and shrieks of the "wittlers" with scorn, for, when they drew up a statement of their grievances and wrongs, he actually himself had it reprinted and sent it round to all the members with their "votes," as the best thing he could do to prove his case. This was adding mockery to their woe. We scarcely think that the great brewers in the House will pronounce upon this question. We have several in the House—to wit, Hanbury, Buxton, Whitbread, Bass, and Stansfeld; but it is questionable whether any of them will venture to break a lance in the fight. Whitbread is in the Government. Hanbury will hardly like to "talk shop" in the House; Bass, from the nature of his business, cares very little about the question; and Stansfeld is a domestic brewer. Charles Buxton, perhaps, may make a speech. Indeed, we fancy we saw him taking notes. But, on the whole, we cannot doubt that the "wittlers" will lose the battle, and in a few months be doomed to sell good beer or lose their custom—a dreadful alternative, no doubt; but, as far as we can see, inevitable.

THE O'CONOR DON,

on Monday night, took the oath and his seat as member for Rosecommon. The O'CONOR DON is rather a high-sounding title, suggestive of dignity and something of noble presence; the gentleman, however, who rejoices in the appellation is neither dignified nor noble in appearance, but a thin, pale, boyish-looking person, not unlike Mr. Bruce, another Irish member. Why this gentleman is called "The O'Conor Don," and not plain Mr. O'Conor, is a disputed question. Some say that the Don was conferred upon the family by Spanish settlers in Ireland; but when and why our authority does not say. Others will have it that the word Don is derived from *dun*, the colour of the standard or the garments of this branch of the O'Conor family, which served to distinguish it from the Black and Red O'Conors of olden times. "The" prefixed to the name is, we apprehend, indicative that the honourable gentleman is the head of his family.

THE DEODORISATION OF THE THAMES.—The material which appears likely to be employed for the deodorisation of the Thames this year is peroxide of iron. Tenders are to be sent in on the 12th of April for the supply of quantities not exceeding 5345 gallons a day, at times to be appointed, between the 1st of May and the 31st of August next, besides further quantities on receipt of notice. The evil of the stench of the river is expected to recur from year to year till the main-drainage works are completed. The deodorising stations are chiefly those which were in use last year. There will be thirty-nine of them for an estimated quantity of 4095 gallons daily (together) on the north side of the river, and fifteen of them for 1250 gallons on the south side. The expense of the disinfectant material for the year is estimated to cost about £2800.

CALLING OUT THE MILITIA.—The *United Service Gazette* has received information from a usually well-informed quarter that it has been determined not only to stop the disembodiment of those militia regiments now under orders for disbandment, but also to call out the whole militia force of the empire.

MONACO.—The *Patric* says:—"Some journals have announced that France has acquired the principality of Monaco. It is possible negotiations for that object may have been opened, but we believe that thus far no definitive result has been arrived at."

Imperial Parliament.

FRIDAY, MARCH 30.

HOUSE OF LORDS.
THE CHINA EXPEDITION.

LORD GREY, in moving for an estimate of the probable cost of the expedition to China up to the close of the financial year 1860-61, stated that the object of his motion was to obtain not an exact but an approximate estimate of the probable cost for the China expedition. He condemned the conduct of the Government for having declared war with China without having previously consulted Parliament. Every blow struck at China, he said, would tell more or less against ourselves; for it was impossible to conceive commerce progressing by burning Chinese cities and slaughtering the Chinese people.

The Duke of SOMERSET thought no blame could attach to the Government for the result of the occurrences in China, as they were not in office at the time when those events happened. The present Government, however, would have been highly to blame if they had not taken immediate steps to obtain reparation for the outrage on our flag. Our relations with China for many years had been on a most unsatisfactory footing, and the present crisis must sooner or later have come to pass. He sincerely trusted that Lord Grey would not press for these returns, as it would be impossible to arrive at anything like accuracy in them.

LORD MALMESBURY defended the course which had been pursued by the late Government in their Chinese policy. He thought Mr. Bruce had acted with undue precipitation, and objected to the way in which we were accustomed to treat the Chinese people—at one moment as barbarians, and at another as a civilised nation. The Chinese were a highly civilised nation, and it was most impolitic on our part to treat them in such an inconsistent manner.

LORD ELGIN defended Mr. Bruce, and said that he had accepted a second time the post of Plenipotentiary to China on the distinct understanding that no personal slight was intended to that gentleman. He should use his best efforts to obtain reparation from the Chinese Government for the late outrages, and endeavour to place the future relations of this country and China upon a more satisfactory basis. It would be necessary, he thought, to insist on our right of sending an Ambassador to Peking; and he entertained a hope that the Chinese Government would make such concessions as would render a recourse to hostilities unnecessary.

LORD ELLENBOROUGH placed much confidence in the power of Lord Elgin to conclude peace; but he considered that no peace could be permanent in China unless our own people—to whom he traced the origin of all our misunderstandings and wars with China—were properly controlled. He stigmatised the present war as most unjust; it was made just for the purpose of making money. No adequate notion existed in this country of the horrors of the Chinese war of 1842—horrors so great that he, when Governor-General of India, had not dared to publish the returns he received detailing those horrors. In the cause of humanity he felt confident that Lord Elgin would do all in his power to bring the present asperities to a pacific conclusion.

After a few remarks from Lord GREY the motion was withdrawn.

THE WHITWORTH GUN.

LORD DE GREY and RIPLEY, in answer to Lord Camperdown, stated that Mr. Whitworth's gun was to undergo a further trial of the fullest kind, under the superintendence of a committee appointed to report upon the relative merits of the Armstrong and Whitworth guns.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

CENTRAL ITALY.—THE REFORM BILL.

MR. HENNESSY, moving for the sake of form that the House at its rising do adjourn until Monday, asked whether the Government had advised her Majesty to recognise the annexation of Bologna, Tuscany, Modena, and Parma to the kingdom of Sardinia, and, if so, the reasons which had induced the Government to tender such advice? He appended to this question observations upon an incongruous topic—the state of Irish business.

SIR G. C. LEWIS objected to the motion for adjournment, as it would be necessary for the House to sit next day (Saturday). He announced that it was not the intention of Lord J. Russell to propose the resumption of the debate on the Reform Bill before Easter.

OUR COLONIAL DEFENCES.

MR. ADDERLEY inquired the intentions of the Government as to a better apportionment of expenses for the defence of colonies between the Imperial and colonial Treasuries, observing that (besides the unequal burden borne by the Imperial Government for the protection of the colonies, the injury arising from the scattering of our forces, and from inducing the colonies not to look to their own resources, and being thus at the mercy of an enemy) there were anomalies in the system calling for remedy.

MR. MAGUIRE called attention to a petition from certain Polish refugees, who, having served under the British Government in the Crimean war, complained of injustice being done them, and asked for inquiry and redress.

MR. S. HERBERT, in reply to Mr. Adderley, said the system had occupied the attention of the Government, and he would not object to producing a report on the subject. He explained the circumstances of the case referred to by Mr. Maguire, observing that it might be a case of humanity, but it was not one of justice.

THE ANNEXATION OF SAVOY.

SIR R. PREEL called attention to the position of Switzerland, with reference to the recent annexation of Savoy to France. He wished, he said, before the House adjourned for the Easter vacation, to induce it to weigh the immense danger which threatened the independence and neutrality of Switzerland, and express its sympathy. After condemning the sentiments upon this subject professed by Mr. Bright, which were not, he said, entertained by nine-tenths of his constituents, and disclaiming any unfriendly feeling towards the Government, whose hands he desired to strengthen, he expressed his belief that they had been completely deceived by one whose good faith they were bound to rely upon. Was it likely, he asked, that the Emperor of the French would rest satisfied with his present acquisition? and, if he would, could he curb the revolutionary policy? He believed that he would be unable to do so, and that he would take the first opportunity to proceed further; hence there was a common interest to check this policy; and the sympathies of Germany were entirely in our favour. He examined the reasons assigned by M. Thouvenel for taking the provinces, inveighing against his conduct as marked by duplicity. He denied that the King of Piedmont had any right to part with Savoy to the Emperor of the French, insisting that the transfer was repugnant to the wishes, and sacrificial to the liberties, of half a million of people. Switzerland was in danger unless we declared that the *question Suisse* was different from that of Savoy, the first Napoleon having followed up the acquisition of Savoy by an aggression upon Switzerland. He thought England ought to make a stand, and that a generous and vigorous protest should be made on the part of the Government and of the House of Commons against the unhappy policy of the Emperor of the French, and in favour of the liberties of Switzerland.

The motion for adjournment was negatived.

THE INCOME TAX.

The adjourned debate on the Income-tax Bill was then resumed.

COLONEL DUNNE entered upon a long argument to show that Ireland paid more than she ought to pay to the Imperial treasury. He contended that the material condition of Ireland had been overrated; and that direct taxation was peculiarly objectionable in that country, which would derive no advantage from the remissions of duty to compensate for the additional income tax, which, therefore, should not be applied to Ireland. He moved to reduce the rate of the tax from 10d. to 9d.

THE CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER opposed the motion, pleading, as upon previous occasions, the exigency of the Exchequer.

The motion was negatived.

MR. W. WILLIAMS moved an amendment to exempt incomes under £150.

SIR H. WILLOUGHBY urged the unequal pressure of the tax on small incomes, and asked whether the Government contemplated the appointment of a Committee to inquire into its inequalities?

MR. ROEBUCK complained of its pressure upon poor clerks and poor gentlemen.

The discussion was continued by Alderman Salomons, Mr. Barrow, Mr. P. Urquhart, Sir M. Farquhar, and other members.

THE CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER said it was impossible to venture upon a distinct indication as to the views of the Government of what should be done in regard to the finances of 1861, not having a basis to work upon. As to the inequalities of the income tax, in the main, he admitted those inequalities. Gross inequalities existed in other taxes, which were veiled, whereas those of the income tax were patent; but there were inequalities peculiar to this tax. The Government, however, were not prepared to propose any inquiry into the subject, not thinking it to be their duty to submit, on their own responsibility, so gigantic a tax to the scrutiny of a Committee unless they were conscientiously persuaded that it was in their power to propose a plan likely to issue in the removal or mitigation of the evil, and they did not see their way to that result. Nevertheless, they would not think it their duty to oppose such a proposal. With regard to the amendment moved by Mr. Williams, it would occasion a loss of not less than £500,000, and he was afraid it would amount to more.

MR. DISRAELI said the whole subject of the income tax had been exhausted by a Committee which had sat for two years, and modifications had been made in it, recognising the distinction between permanent and casual incomes. But the Chancellor of the Exchequer had denounced the tax as an immoral enormity, and called for its termination; and the Government of

1852 had been turned out of office because they did not deal with this tax properly. Yet, in spite of a kind of compact he had entered into with the country, and with £2,000,000 at his disposal, the same Minister had ostentatiously applied it to other purposes. The Chancellor of the Exchequer had termed this a tax of gigantic proportions; but who made it so? He had stigmatised the tax as immoral and intolerable, and proposed that steps should be taken for its gradual abolition, and now came forward, in 1860, virtually to double the tax.

Upon a division, Mr. Williams's amendment was negatived by 174 to 24.

THE STAMP DUTIES—TIME BARGAINS.

On the consideration of the Stamp Duties Bill, Mr. BENTINCK moved the omission of the 17th clause, which repealed the Act 7th George II., passed to prevent gambling in the funds by time bargains; and, although the Act had fallen into desuetude, if it were repealed, he contended that it would be unjust to interfere with any description of gambling. He insisted, in opposition to the Chancellor of the Exchequer, that time bargains were immoral as well as mischievous.

Mr. JAMES observed that the clause would be utterly inoperative. It repealed the 7th George II., which was self-repealed, and did not repeal the 10th George II., which made it perpetual. The Act 7th and 8th Victoria applied to all wagers and gambling; it was, therefore, ridiculous to propose such a clause.

The SOLICITOR-GENERAL admitted that it would have been better to refer to the perpetuating Act, and the defect would be remedied.

A discussion, which turned principally upon the object, the policy, and the effect of Sir John Bernard's Act, was carried on by Sir H. Cairns, Mr. Hubbard, and Mr. Butt; in the end,

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER consented to the omission of the clause, designing to introduce it in the form of a separate bill.

The Bankrupt Law (Scotland) Amendment Bill passed through Committee.

SATURDAY, MARCH 31.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

THE INCOME TAX.

On the third reading of the Income-tax Bill, Mr. HENLEY protested against the introduction of a clause which had not been printed, and of which nobody knew anything.

Mr. GRIFFITH complained of the thrusting of clauses into bills in this manner.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER gave an explanation of this matter, and the bill passed.

STAMPS.

On the third reading of the Stamp Duties Bill, Sir H. CAIRNS suggested that the stamp duty imposed by the bill on contracts for the sale of stock was not warranted by the resolution.

The suggestion gave rise to considerable discussion and caused some perplexity. The difficulty was at length got over by recommending the bill and amending the schedule, dropping contract notes, which would be the subject of another bill.

The bill then passed.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER moved for leave to bring in a bill to repeal the Act 7 George II., cap. 8 (commonly called "Sir John Bernard's Act"), and the Act 10 George II., cap. 8.

After some remarks by Mr. Wise, Mr. JAMES asked whether the Chancellor of the Exchequer's object was to obtain a revenue from contract notes for wagering transactions? If so, the 8th Victoria would prevent him.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER replied that Sir John Bernard's Act had placed persons in the Stock Exchange under a peculiar law, affecting not only wagering transactions but the ordinary and regular business; and his object was to repeal this exceptional law and to leave all wagering transactions subject to the general provisions of the Act of Victoria.

Leave was given to introduce the bill, and the House adjourned.

MONDAY, APRIL 2.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

STAMPS AND INCOME TAX.

The Stamp Duties Bill and the Income-tax Bill were both read a third time and passed, it being understood that a discussion upon the financial measures of the Government should take place after Easter.

The Lordships adjourned at an early hour.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

GOVERNMENT BUSINESS.

On the motion of Lord J. RUSSELL, that upon Thursdays after Easter, and till Whitsuntide, Government orders of the day have precedence of notices of motions,

Colonel W. PATTEN observed that it was rather early in the Session for such a proposal, which would be a restraint upon private members, though he acknowledged that the curtailment of the time at the command of the Government on Fridays by the debates raised on the motion for adjournment called for some regulation for the better conduct of the public business.

The motion was opposed by several members, including Mr. Disraeli, Sir J. Pakington, Lord Stanley, and Mr. Walpole.

Sir G. GREY moved, as an amendment, to add to the motion the words, "and that notices of motion have precedence of orders on Fridays."

After a protracted discussion, the House divided upon the motion as amended, which was carried by 142 to 117.

SARDINIA.

Lord J. RUSSELL said, in reply to Mr. Hennessy, that her Majesty had been advised to recognise the recent acquisitions of the King of Sardinia as forming part of his dominions.

CUSTOMS.

The House then went into Committee upon the Customs Acts, when the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER moved certain further amended resolutions, explaining their nature and effect, and the reasons which had led to the alteration of the original resolutions.

The first resolution charged (in aid of the Customs establishments) upon all articles except corn, grain, or flour, and timber and wood goods, upon importation, per package or parcel, 1d.; animals, per head, 1d.; goods in bulk, for each unit of entry, 1d.; with power to the Lords of the Treasury to frame regulations for adjusting the amount of such payments in certain cases by altering the unit of entry or quantity or number of goods, so that the charge shall as little as may be exceed one quarter per cent on the goods of the lowest value; and on each entry of goods for exportation (being a copy of the bill of lading, with the particulars and value of the goods indorsed) a duty of 1s. 6d.

This resolution, after considerable discussion, was agreed to.

The next resolution charged (in aid of the Customs establishments) a customs duty of 10s. per cent on the amount of customs duty payable on goods warehoused and removed under bond from one place to another, and of 5s. per cent on goods warehoused and not removed, to be paid in each case on taking such goods out of bond for home consumption; tobacco to be chargeable with only half of the above rates, and no more than 5s., in addition to 5s. per cent, upon any single delivery of sugars when removed under bond.

This resolution was likewise agreed to, and, with the other, ordered to be reported.

WINE LICENSES.

The adjourned debate on the second reading of the Refreshment Houses and Wine Licenses Bill was then resumed.

Mr. CROOK moved to defer the second reading for six months. He objected to the bill that it increased immensely the facilities for the consumption of intoxicating liquors, and tended to demoralise the people.

The amendment was seconded by Mr. DIOBY SEYMOUR, who contended that the fiscal benefit expected from this French Wine Bill had been much exaggerated; that upon sanitary grounds it would fail; and that, upon moral and social grounds, it was incompatible with the welfare of the community. He objected to the arbitrary machinery of the bill, which, he said, would introduce with French wine a French police.

Mr. K. SEYMOUR said he was not surprised at the opposition offered to this measure, which had to deal with two different but well-organised parties. He did not think any demoralisation would follow the giving a fair chance to the consumption of wine, and that it was an anomaly to exclude it from houses of refreshment. The power which, in some cases, the bill gave to the magistrates was, in his opinion, too large.

Mr. HARDY observed that, whereas the primary object of the bill was revenue, the revenue would not be materially increased by it. But, assuming that there would be a large consumption of wine, there would be no diminution of the consumption of beer and spirits, the object being to give perfect freedom from restrictions. This freedom of trade in liquors had existed long ago, and the successive experiments in legislation on this subject had multiplied beerhouses and the temptation to drunken men. Then, he said, the definitions in the bill were so imperfect as to what were refreshment-houses and what were eating-houses, that it would be impossible to establish checks against disorderly houses, while it placed a secret and irresponsible power in the hands of the police. The consumption of spirits was diminishing, partly by the temperance movement, but principally through moral and social causes, and the increasing consumption of tea, coffee, and cocoa; and he asked the House whether they would supply the place of these articles by wines from foreign countries, stimulating their use by increased competition?

On the motion of Mr. AYLTON the debate was again adjourned.

After some other business the House adjourned.

TUESDAY, APRIL 3.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

THE HOUSE ADJOURNED.

The House met at three o'clock, when the Royal Assent was given by commission to the Income-tax and Stamp Duties Bills, and, having adjourned for a short time, met again at five o'clock, transacted no business of public importance, and finally adjourned for the Easter holidays at half-past five o'clock.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

THE REFORM BILL.

Sir J. PAKINGTON asked in what manner the numbers of houses at various amounts of "gross estimated rental" in the cities and boroughs of England (as given in a return upon the table) were ascertained, complaining that the return was erroneous and delusive?

Mr. VILLIERS assured Sir John that the return was complete and accurate.

Mr. JAMES believed that, if the return was narrowly looked at, there would be found an increment of the franchise to the extent of between 200,000 and 300,000 voters, in addition to the 217,000 estimated by Lord J. Russell.

The subject underwent further discussion, which extended to the Reform Bill; and additional explanations of the return were given by Sir G. Grey and Sir G. Lewis, who said it was the first attempt to obtain accurate returns in this matter, and it had been made with the greatest care and the most perfect sincerity.

ADULTERATION OF FOOD AND DRINK.—CUSTOMS.

The House went into Committee on the remaining clauses of the Adulteration of Food and Drink Bill, which were agreed to, with amendments. The report on the Customs Acts was brought up and agreed to. The Customs Bill was committed *pro forma*.

ADJOURNMENT FOR THE HOLIDAYS.

The House then adjourned, on the motion of Lord Palmerston, till Monday, the 16th of April.

IRELAND.

A TALE OF MYSTERY.—The following paragraph appears in the last Cork papers:—"In the office or approach to the man-of-war roads at Queens-town may be seen lying a rakish-looking clipper-barque, which will be at once recognised as of Yankee build, of some 700 tons burden; and for the last four months has this gallant ship ridden out the storms and gales that beset her at the same anchorage. With her full complement of hands, and seaworthy, there she still mysteriously swings, awaiting the word 'away.' But whether shall she speed? many inquire. Some conjecture, but all are at fault. Mysterious-looking characters have been seen to visit her—some say of foreign mould; some aver natives. But beyond the fact that this craft is called the *Charles B. Truitt*, of Philadelphia, and has on board a cargo consisting of 23,000 finely-finished rifles, nought is known."

THE CROPS OF 1859.—From statistical returns it appears that there was a great diminution in the yield of the crops in 1859, compared with the previous year; the cereals produced less by 1,183,519 quarters. Potatoes show a decrease of 562,702 tons, or about sufficient to supply every family in Ireland (averaging five persons to a family) with a stone of potatoes each day for nearly two months and a half; turnips show a reduction of 902,717 tons, mangold-wurtzel of 96,477 tons, cabbage of 51,487 tons, and hay of 379,227 tons. The only crop which exhibits an increase is the important one of flax, which yielded 3994 tons above the produce in 1858; but this was owing to 44,636 acres more having been sown in 1859. This decrease in the average yield of all the crops in 1859 may be attributed to the extreme dryness and high temperature of the season. Nevertheless, the *Kerry Post* notices a circumstance which indicates the increasing prosperity of Ireland:—"The rage for taking land has become so great in this neighbourhood that very heavy fines are being paid, in addition to high rents, for any large farms now to be let. We have known £800 to be paid in one instance by a working farmer, and £1000 was afterwards offered by another farmer."

THE EXODUS.—For nearly two years or so it was pretty generally supposed that the exodus of the Irish peasantry was accomplished, and that until another generation arose we should hear no more of that marvellous decrease in the population which followed the famine of 1845-6. But advices from Cork of Saturday's date state that on the previous day upwards of 300 passengers were embarked at Queenstown for New York, and a large number for Portland. From the port of Sligo it is stated that during the past month there has been a regular flight of emigrants from the west of Ireland. On Friday week nearly 200 emigrants passed through Sligo for America by way of Liverpool, not to speak of those going by Galway. The tide of emigration (says a local paper) has set in in right earnest from the western provinces. The emigration from all ports during the past year exceeded that of the previous one by 16,506 persons—68,093 having left the country in 1858, and 84,599 in 1859; of this latter amount 46,431 were males, and 38,168 females. These include 2679 males and 1321 females, or 1000 persons, who did not belong to Ireland; leaving the remaining 80,599 to represent the emigration of the Irish during 1859.

THE POPE'S IRISH BROTHER.—The following paragraph, taken from the *Limerick Chronicle*, looks, it must be admitted, "very like a whale":—"It is reported that overtures have been made to the men of the Tipperary Artillery, the early disembodiment of which is expected, to emigrate to New York, become United States' citizens, and join a Papal brigade which is being organised in that city. The men of this fine and highly-trained corps are unwilling to go back to field labour, but seem to doubt whether the law would permit them to accede to the foreign offers made."

THE PROVINCES.

THE MURDER AT WALKERHURST.—The final examination of the prisoner, John Fenton, who is charged with the murder of Charles Spencer, took place before the East Retford bench of magistrates on Friday week. The chief evidence was that tendered by Mr. W. Herapath, microscopist and analytic chemist, of Bristol, who deposed to finding human blood upon various articles of clothing belonging to the prisoner. He also found two human hairs upon the prisoner's leggings. Upon examining the hair from the head of the murdered man he found it to contain a large proportion of grey hair, and those hairs which were less changed by time he found to be somewhat darker in tint than those hairs found upon the clothing. The hair of the prisoner, who was evidently a younger man than the deceased, if he might be allowed to judge him from the colour of the hair, was also darker than the hair found upon the clothing. The specimens of mud and earth had only been partially examined, without any definite result being at present arrived at. In the opinion of witness the sprinkled character of the blood-stains upon the articles produced could not have been caused by the act of falling into a bloody spot or a vessel full of blood. He believed the blood had been jerked on the dress by the action of the heart—a living heart—of the person from whom it came. At the conclusion of Mr. Herapath's evidence the prisoner was committed to take his trial on the capital charge.

TWO GAMEKEEPERS SHOT.—Two of Sir Thomas Sebright's gamekeepers encountered three armed poachers early on Thursday morning week in the preserves of Foulshough, Herts. The head keeper, John Seabrook, demanded to know their business, whereupon one of the poachers shot him in the breast and neck. The wounded man made a convulsive spring, fell, and instantly expired. Another of the gang shot at Thomas Cook, the second gamekeeper, but the wounds he received were not fatal. He had just sufficient strength to reach some cottages standing within two or three hundred yards, and to give information of what had taken place. In a short time a man named Cain was taken into custody. Cook's wounds are of a very dangerous character, and but faint hopes are entertained of his recovery.

FORGERIES UPON THE LIVERPOOL UNION BANK.—At the Liverpool Police Court, on Monday, Thomas Dunmoodie Johnson, a clerk in the service of Mr. James Bird, a merchant of that town, was committed for trial at the assizes, charged with having forged his employer's name to two checks—one for £500 and the other for £300. The prisoner, in whose house were found notes and gold to the amount of £502, admitted his guilt when arrested.

FEARFUL BOILER EXPLOSION.—The northern papers report another fearful boiler explosion, which took place on Monday morning at the Seaton Burn Colliery, about six miles from Newcastle. There were six boilers near the mouth of the pit, and at the time of the accident five were in operation. About nine o'clock one of the boilers sprang from its bed with tremendous force, upsetting the adjoining boilers, and projecting the stone and brick work of which it was composed in all directions. The exploded boiler flew into the air to the height of the furnace chimney, and the principal portion, weighing about six tons, taking an easterly direction, alighted in a garden on the opposite side of the road, about 150 yards distant, where it lay spread out into a huge sheet. When the crash took place the engine was all standing at the firehole, in company with two stokers. They were all three overwhelmed in the falling rubbish, the stokers being killed, while the engine was severely bruised and scalded. The pit head, situated to the south-west of the boilers, was at the time crowded by from 120 to 150 men and boys, and had the exploded boiler gone in that direction the destruction of life must have been fearful. As it was, with stones and bricks flying about in all directions in such abundance that the roofs of the houses to some considerable distance were completely riddled by their fall, it was impossible but that a considerable number should be injured in a greater or less degree.

MURDER IN CUMBERLAND.—A maid servant named Sewell, employed by a farmer near Cockermouth, was foully murdered on Monday week, while alone in the house. She was found with her head nearly severed from her body, to which it only adhered by a slight ligament of skin; and in her left hand a large knife had been placed (but in a reversed position, with the back, instead of the blade, towards the throat), to make it appear that the deed had been of her own commission. The wall had a bloody mark upon it corresponding with a man's hand. Suspicion at first attached to a man named Case, a farm labourer, but he has fully exculpated himself.

DESPERATE ENCOUNTER.—A desperate encounter occurred at Sheffield, at an early hour on Sunday morning, between a burglar and the landlord of the Ebenezer Tavern, in Russell-street. Mrs. Gregory, the landlady of the beerhouse, was awake by a noise in her bedroom; and, on looking at the foot of the bed, she saw a man crouched down rifling her husband's pockets. She at once awoke her husband; and immediately the burglar discovered he was seen he attempted to get to the door, but Gregory jumped out of bed, and, seizing him by the collar, they struggled together on the floor. The burglar, being the stronger of the two, got out of the room on to the landing at the head of the staircase. The landlord still retained his hold of him, and so the burglar dragged Gregory down stairs. The front door, leading into a large yard, had previously been unbolted and placed wide open, so that when the two reached the bottom of the stairs the thief had no difficulty in dragging his opponent into the yard. As they were in the act of passing through the door Gregory struck the burglar a desperate blow under the ear, and both fell together under the body of a cart which was standing in the yard. After a struggle of five or six minutes the thief again got the upper hand, and dragged Gregory towards the gateway leading into the street. Fortunately, assistance now arrived; for the landlord's cries of "Police!" and the wife's screams of "Murder!" had attracted the attention of a police sergeant and a watchman, and these brought the struggle to a conclusion. The officers recognised the thief as a discharged policeman named Peter Lynn.

MURDER OF A WORKHOUSE MATRON BY A LUNATIC.—Mrs. Hunt, the matron of the Clifton Union Workhouse, has been murdered by a young woman, Ann Richards, an inmate of the house, during a paroxysm of madness. She was admitted to the workhouse by mistake, without its being known that she was subject to fits of insanity. On the night of Thursday week the matron, hearing a great uproar in the ward, went to it, accompanied by the senior deputy nurse. No sooner had they shown themselves at the door than the girl Richards made a desperate rush at them, grasped hold of the deputy nurse, seized her arm between her teeth, and bit her very severely. Mrs. Hunt interposed to rescue her, when the girl released hold of the nurse and aimed a violent blow at the matron, striking her just under the ear. The old lady fell on the ground insensible, and almost immediately expired.

THE STAMFORD AFFAIR.—Henry Corby was charged on Friday, before the borough magistrates, with the murder of Elizabeth Pulley, "by suffocating, choking, strangling, and burning her;" and also with breaking into the dwelling-house of the deceased and stealing therefrom 100 sovereigns, a £10 note, six gold rings, a quantity of silver plate, and a writing-desk, her property. The prisoner is about fifty years of age, and a carpenter. The chief evidence was given by two surgeons, who deposed that, on an examination of the body (which had been exhumed), they came to the conclusion that the deceased had been knocked down, strangled, and her clothes afterwards fired, with a view to burning the body—a result which was only partially accomplished. The surgeons inclined to the opinion that the deceased was not quite dead when her clothes were fired. The inquiry was adjourned.

FRENCH PREPARATIONS FOR WAR.—Bullier's lithographic sheets contain the following:—"Great activity is observable at present in the military ports of France. Experiments are being made with newly-invented engines of war which, it is said, will astonish the world even more than the rifled cannon. Trials made at Lorient with newly-invented bullets and with rifled cannon on an improved system have, it is said, produced most satisfactory results. A combined system of concentric batteries has been proposed for the defence of the French coasts, which, it is asserted, will render the approach of an enemy's fleet impossible."

LIBERATED AFRICAN SLAVES.—The numbers of liberated African slaves who were introduced into Jamaica during the years from 1848 to 1859 were, according to a return lately published, 5557. Those introduced into British Guiana were 33,921; into St. Vincent, 805; into Trinidad, 17,165; into St. Lucia, 1674; into Grenada, 2034; into Antigua, 1213; into Tobago, 292; and into St. Kitt's, 852. The total number thus introduced into the West Indies amounted to 68,603. During the same time 170,079 were introduced into the Mauritius.

THE WITHDRAWAL OF THE FRENCH FROM ROME.—Mr. Henry W. Wilberforce writes from Rome to the *Weekly Register*, vouching the following as correct:—"The French Ambassador, the Duke of Gramont, in a personal interview, asked the Holy Father, in the name of the Emperor, what he would do if the French troops should be withdrawn—an event, he added, which was not improbable. The Holy Father replied, 'Let them go; I shall trust on Providence.' The Ambassador then added that he thought it right to tell his Holiness that it would not be displeasing to the French Emperor if, in such a case, Neapolitan troops were to be called in. The Holy Father replied, 'The King of Naples has enough to do at home; I shall trust on Providence.' Next day a French officer happened to receive an audience of the Holy Father. The Pope said to him, 'So, you are going?' The officer said he had no idea of anything of the sort. The Holy Father replied, 'I had it from the French Ambassador.' On this the French officer went to the Ambassador and asked what it meant. The Ambassador went to Cardinal Antonelli and complained of what he said having been repeated. Antonelli replied 'that there had been nothing diplomatic in the communication, or it would have gone, in the regular way, through the Secretary of State.' The day after this a communication, in regular diplomatic form, was made by the Roman Government to the French Ambassador on the subject of the removal of the French troops. It stated that the Government of the Holy Father left the French Emperor free to do as he thought best."

FRENCH DESIGNS ON BAVARIA.—"In making his recent overtures to the Court of Munich, Napoleon III. is said to have rested his pretensions upon the text of the Treaty of Paris of 1814. It appears that his Majesty has manifested a strong desire to oppose its stipulations to those of the final treaty concluded in the following year. Such an interpretation of the public law of Europe, however novel and alarming, is eminently advantageous to France, and, in addition to its material recommendations, has the merit of effacing from the map of the world every remaining trace of that great victory by which the first empire was overthrown. Knowing the ambition of Bavaria to possess the Tyrol, both German and Italian, the Emperor of the French has given the Court of Munich to understand that it is especially upon that side that Bavaria would receive territorial compensation for the cession of the Palatinate. If Bavaria becomes the ally of France as Sardinia already is, France would in this way command both Lombardy and Switzerland from the Tyrol, and even turn Austria's fortified line of the Minio by debouching through the passes of the Tyrol from Trento, and attacking Venetia by advancing down the eastern side of the Lake of Garda."—*Press*.

POST-OFFICE STATISTICS.—The gross revenue of the Post Office for the year 1858 amounted to £3,087,535, and the cost of management to £1,926,108; leaving a net revenue of £1,161,427. The number of post-offices in the United Kingdom at the close of the year 1858 was 11,235; letters sent by post, 522,874,000, or about 18 to each person; newspapers, 50,038,000; book packets, 28,384,000. The weight of the letters sent by post was 4566 tons; of newspapers, 3490 tons; and of the book packets, 2705 tons; making a total weight sent through the Post Office in 1858 of 10,761 tons. The number of letters delivered in London was 127,365,000; Manchester, 17,007,000; Liverpool, 12,762,000. The revenue from London was £351,912; Liverpool, £103,950; Manchester, £89,946. The number of post-office orders issued was 6,689,396; and the amount, £12,662,105. This sum is the amount paid into the Post Office; but the amount repaid for orders was only £12,646,496—so that, by this return, the Post Office appears to clear £15,619 by unclaimed orders and from other causes.

MORMONISM.—Five hundred and eighty-three souls, representing 500 adults, the disciples of Joe Smith, left Liverpool on Friday in the ship *Undervinter*, for New York, en route for the Mormon settlement at the Salt Lake, Utah territory, United States. Of these 18 males and 116 females had been married, 138 males and 100 females were single, 60 males and 41 females were children, and 14 males and 7 females infants. Of the Mormons by the *Undervinter* 475 belonged to England (366 adults, 82 children, and 17 infants), 33 Scotch (19 adults, 13 children, and 1 infant), 1 adult Irish, and 74 foreigners (chiefly Germans), 52 of whom were adults, 19 children, and 3 infants. This may be remarked as to the appearance of these Mormon emigrants—that they appeared highly intelligent persons, and seemed to be of the class of substantial farmers and operatives.—A letter from Utah gives an account of a curious social party, which began with a prayer by the Prophet Young. Brigham then opened the ball by dancing in the first quadrille, and closed it with another prayer. The party was confined to the date of the church. Tickets two guineas, each saint being permitted to bring two ladies only.

THE ARMY.—The Governor-General finds that the state of India will permit the immediate withdrawal of seven regiments of infantry and two of cavalry; and, as this was not expected when the Estimates were framed, it follows that some of the projected augmentations of our forces at home will have to be abandoned. Instead of two new brigades, which it was settled were to be added to the artillery, but one field brigade will now be formed, together with some augmentation of the new Coast Brigade; while the projected increase of the Royal Engineers is altogether given up, and that corps will remain at its present strength.

BARON RICASOLI.

AMONGST the many distinguished men who have been brought into note by the late revolution in Italy, Baron Ricasoli stands prominently forward. We are not in a position to give our readers many particulars of this eminent statesman's former life, for little or nothing is recorded of his early years. We first hear of him in 1848 as the "Gonfaloniere," or Governor, of Florence, and as a deputy of the Legislative Assembly. He, however, soon resigned his official situation, being unable to reconcile himself to the policy of the Grand Duke's Government. For some years after this he resided in Switzerland, the free institutions of which country harmonised with his own views of constitutional liberty. In 1856 he returned to Tuscany, and, soon after, the expulsion of the Grand Duke placed him at the head of the Provisional Government appointed to conduct the affairs of the Duchy. From that time to the present he has occupied so prominent a part before the world, and the events in which he figured so largely are so recent, that we need do no more than recall them to the minds of our readers. On the occasion of the presentation of the colours to the National Guard of Florence, in front of the Campo Santo, he made the following stirring speech:—"If," he said, "the departed heroes who sleep in this consecrated earth, brought hither from Jerusalem by our crusaders, could hear this clang of arms, they would ask—Is it against Genoa or Venice war is waged? No! Italians now don't fight each other; we all rally round one King—Victor Emmanuel; municipal jealousies are of the past. It is for us, and not for strangers, to decide on what suits our country. Romagna has decreed, Tuscany has adjudicated, on the issue. Foreign Powers may seek to suffocate our peninsula by obstructions to its free breathing. We breathe at last, and, save at Rome, Naples, and Venice, our lungs inhale national vitality. We have in our midst a decrepit foe in Rome's temporal sceptre. Mix not up the faith of your fathers with that nuisance. They are distinct, and in our day incompatible. Soldiers! sons of the crusaders, whose bones repose in this soil! keep your faith intact. In my veins there flows a blood that has for ages been at the service of our religion; and, as a Catholic, I feel it my duty to denounce the fraud and artifices of a worldly and profane Court, as much adverse to true Christianity as to national happiness."

THE METROPOLITAN RAILWAY.

THE construction of this railway, the utility of which is recognised by all, has commenced at various points on the line it will follow. The chief works yet pro-



BARON RICASOLI.

ceeded with are those at the Great Western station and at the Great Northern station, where shafts have been sunk to secure a ready outlet for the enormous quantities of excavated earth, gravel, &c. Our illustration shows the mode of construction actually in progress at King's-cross. To avoid the necessity of paying compensation for much valuable property, the alternative adopted by the Metropolitan Company is that of an underground communication, by which the most densely-populated districts can be traversed without interfering with the buildings or the general traffic.

The railway will start from the Great Western Railway Hotel at Paddington, and cross the Edgware-road to the New-road, which it follows to King's-cross.

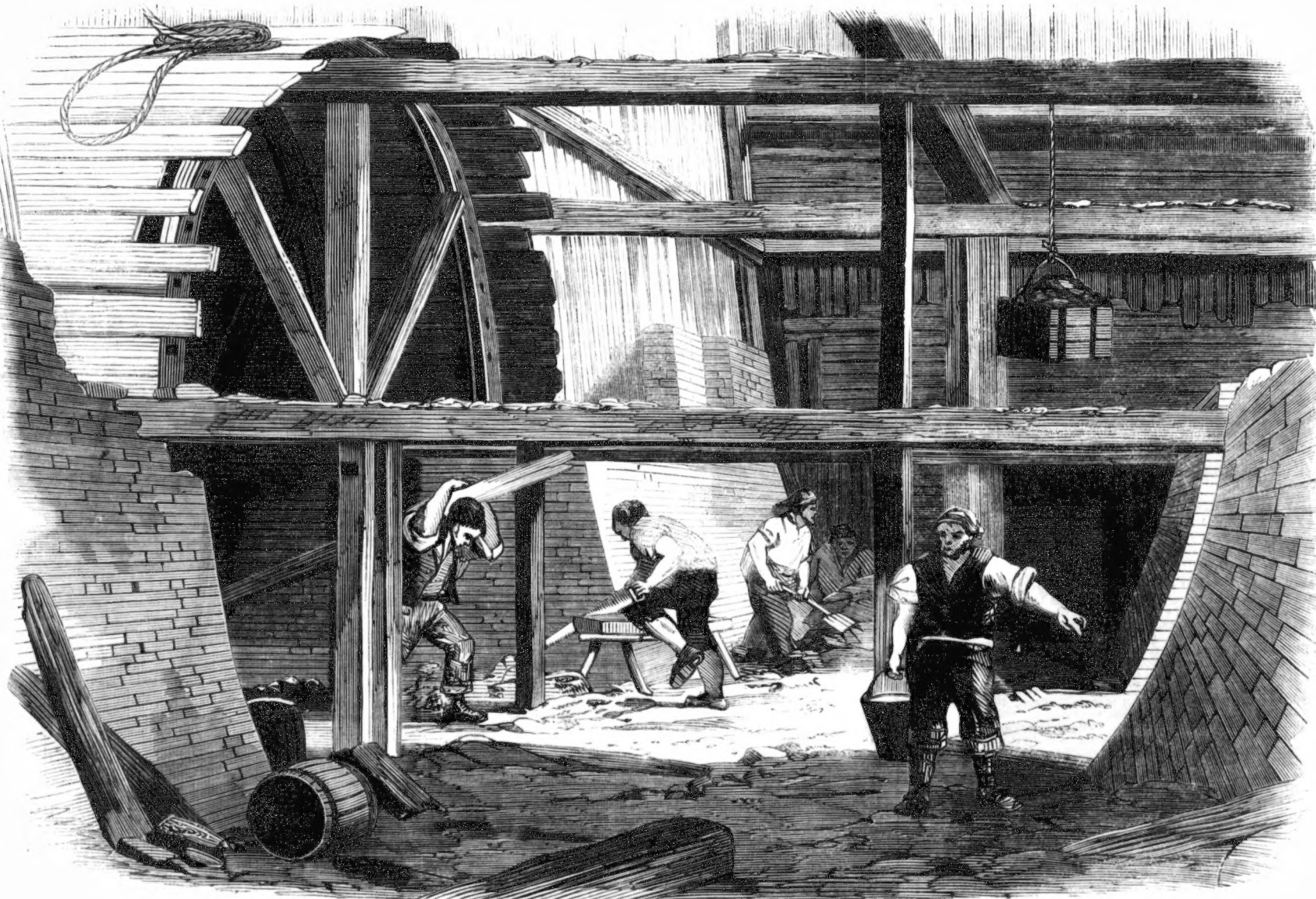
From King's-cross the line, avoiding the House of Correction at Coldbath-fields, and passing for some distance under the Bagnigge Wells-road, takes an almost straight course to Farringdon-street; and this part of the railway, except when passing under roadways, will be in open cutting.

In addition to the principal terminal stations at Paddington and Holborn-hill, commodious passenger-stations will be erected at the Edgware-road, Baker-street, in the triangular plot of ground opposite Trinity Church, Regent's Park, Hampstead-road, Euston-square, and King's-cross. The terminal stations, and the Edgware-road, Regent's Park, and King's-cross stations, will be open, or covered with a glass roof. The others will be commodious, airy, and well lighted with gas. The ascent and descent to the underground stations will be no greater than at the Great Western station at Paddington and other metropolitan lines.

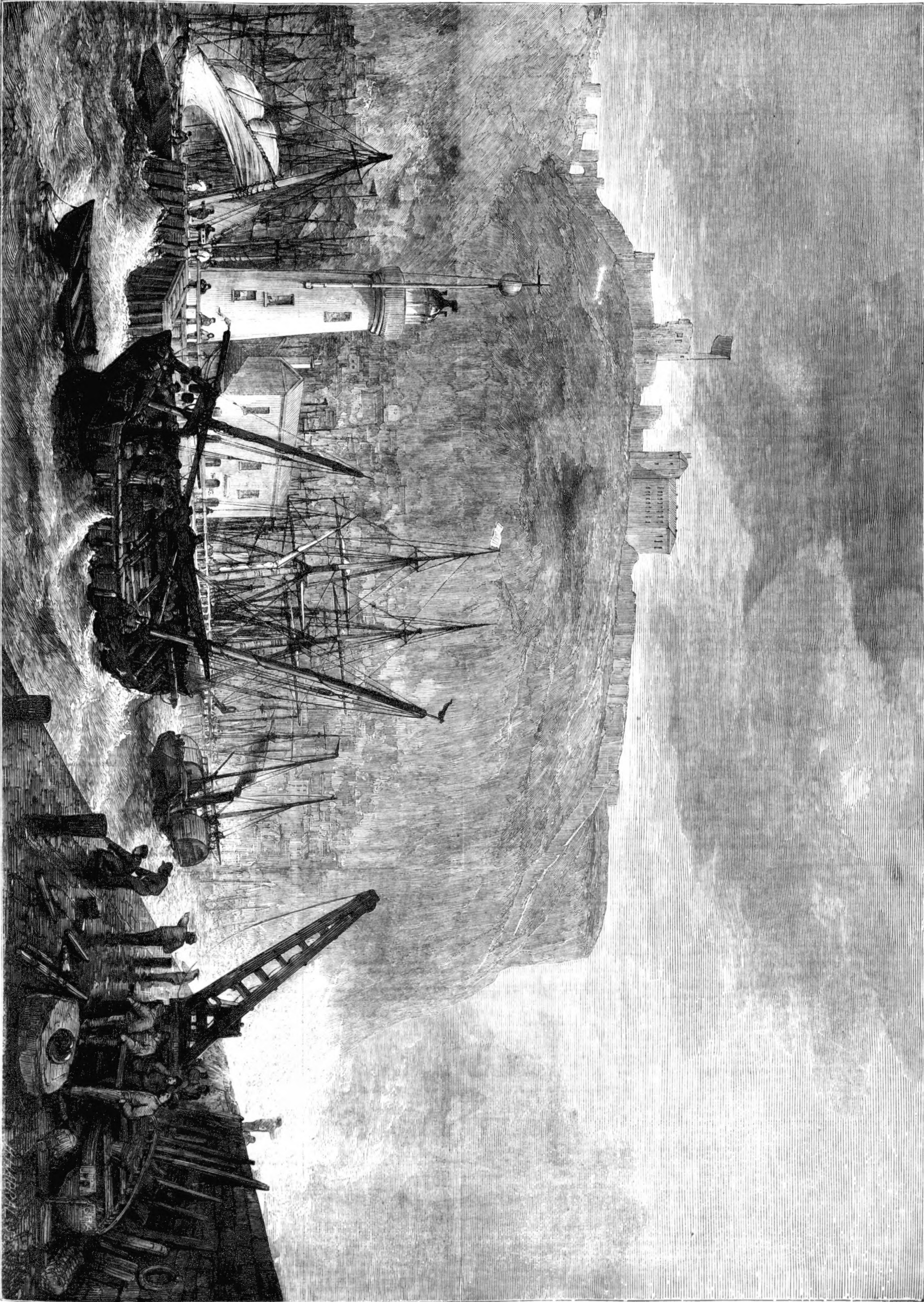
The capital of the company consists of £850,000, in shares of £10 each. Of this amount £200,000 is held by the Corporation, £175,000 by the Great Western Railway Company, and the remainder by the general public. The contractors are Messrs. Smith and Knight and Mr. Jay, both firms being well known in connection with works of this description. Messrs. Smith and Knight are constructing the western portion of the line, from Paddington to Euston-square, and Mr. Jay the eastern portion, from Euston-square to Farringdon-street.

SCARBOROUGH DURING AN EASTERLY GALE.

On examining that interesting document, the wreck chart for the year, we cannot fail to be struck with the enormous amount of life and property annually lost between the mouth of the River Thames and the Firth of Forth. For a great part of this distance the black spots marking the places where wrecks



THE METROPOLITAN RAILWAY.



SCARBOROUGH HARBOUR, DURING AN EASTERLY GALE.

have occurred lie pretty close together; but in some places they almost blacken the coast, literally lying in heaps.

The reasons why the east coast of England is so much more thickly strewn with wrecks than other parts are, firstly, that a much larger number of vessels navigate along this coast than any other; secondly, because these vessels are often very badly found in anchors, cables, and other necessary gear requisite in times of danger; thirdly, because the navigation from the Nore Light to the Spurn Light, at the mouth of the Humber, is one long series of dangers—shoals and sandbanks besetting the course of the mariner the whole distance; fourthly, the want of harbours accessible at all times of tide into which distressed ships might run for shelter.

The interests of the seamen have been in no way neglected by the Trinity Board as regards marking, by lights, buoys, and beacons, the whole of these dangers; the Swin and other channels being elaborately buoyed out, and at night lit up like a street. Between the Nore and Orfordness there are six light-ships and five lighthouses. The Government, however, have done but little towards giving them shelter from the winter gales; hence the state of this wreck-strewn coast after bad weather. As many as fifty ships have been cast ashore in the neighbourhood of Lowestoft and Yarmouth in a single gale, and ten vessels have been wrecked on one mile of the coast in one night. Every naturally-sheltered anchorage is, however, made use of. At a place near Lowestoft, called by the coasters "Abraham's Bosom," from four to five hundred vessels are sometimes to be seen at anchor.

We see by the chart, however, that ships are lost in more or less numbers nearly all round the United Kingdom. Wherever banks, sunken rocks, and intricate shoals are, there we find black spots thick and terrible. What an amount of human suffering, what scenes of terrible distress, would have to be narrated if the tale could be told how all these ships were lost, of how long their crews hung to the wreck in hopes of help which never came; how some struck on horrid rocks when no apparent danger threatened, and half the crew were drowned in their beds, never knowing the how and wherefore of their disaster; how some found themselves drifting fast in against some huge wall of rock, knowing that no human aid could reach them there, and counting the moments as they passed to utter destruction and death!

The Channel coast is thickly strewn with wrecks, and the ravenous maw of the Goodwin has been gorged. About Dungeness, the back of the Isle of Wight, and the coast of Dorsetshire severe casualties have happened. Here are black spots on the Chesil beach, an isthmus of pebbles ten miles long and half a mile wide, with water on both sides. There is a wild sea running on that steep bank on winter nights when the wind blows right out of the Atlantic. Let us hope the Coastguard gave these wrecked people some help, for if not they were all lost. Further west, and the coast is ironbound, yet still the black spots lie thick about. Here is one right under Deadman's Head, an ominous name for a ship to make the land upon. Among the Scilly Islands, and round the Land's End, and up the Welsh coast, still we find black spots. These must have been all total losses, and we fear few crews were saved. Towards Liverpool the coast grows thick with wrecks again, as the ships are more numerous; and still further northward, and through the Pentland Firth to the east coast again, wrecks here and there and everywhere. No place but could tell some tale of suffering—of poor hardy fishermen lost, leaving wife and children helpless, or of scores of men and women washed ashore, who spoke a foreign language, dying, who knew not where they were, but had left their homes on the banks of the Rhine or the Elbe to settle in a distant land.

The coast of Ireland, too, is not without its share of disasters. There are some black spots about the Wicklow and Arklow banks—in the extreme south, and on the coast of the far north; one right upon the Giant's Causeway, and out on the west coast there are several, where the Atlantic sweeps in full force, burying some of the rocky islands in foam, and sending spray and sea-mists over the high lands of Connemara. Heaven have mercy on those who suffer shipwreck here! for the sea has none. A fearful scene happened once upon this coast. An emigrant-ship sailed from Limerick for the United States, but, meeting with a westerly gale, was driven back upon the Irish shore. Her terrible position was seen from the land as she drifted into a bay surrounded with rocks three hundred feet high. Her anchors were let go, and good and true must iron and hemp have been here, for they failed her not as she lay in her terrible berth, the sea breaking over her decks, crowded with wretched men, women, and children. Hundreds of the country people had assembled on the cliffs over the doomed ship; and here, in that terrible Atlantic gale, the spray flying right over them, with all the pomp and ceremony of their Church, these people, led by their priests, lifted their voices above the howling wind in prayer for the souls of those in jeopardy; but it availed not, for a huge-crested sea fell right on to her, and sent her straight to the bottom, and the noisy, white breakers had the bay all to themselves again.

Harbours of refuge have been proposed over and over again on the east coast of England, and commissions appointed to examine the coast and determine where such necessary works shall be placed. But time passes on, years are expended in engineering controversies and Parliamentary jobbing; for every port in Great Britain undertakes to show that it is situated in the exact locality that renders it desirable that it should be converted into a harbour of refuge. In the mean time wrecks grow more numerous, and annually an amount of life and property is lost almost astounding. The coasts of Yorkshire, Durham, and Northumberland are most in need of protection, and the Tyne, Redcar, and Hartlepool are spoken of as being likely places for the purpose.

A few miles from Scarborough is a small watering-place called Filey, where a natural reef of rock extends out into the sea for nearly a mile in length, thus forming, ready made, one side for a harbour. It is not improbable but that this point may be eventually chosen for a great harbour of refuge for the Yorkshire coast.

Our illustration represents the port of Scarborough during an easterly gale, with fishing-luggers and other craft entering for shelter. All the ports on the east coast get crowded with shipping at such times. Lowestoft gets literally crammed, and great damage arises from want of sufficient accommodation; the ports now existing being small, and not adapted for ships of great draught of water.

MR. SPURGEON'S TABERNACLE.—It appears from a statement lately read before a meeting of Mr. Spurgeon's friends that £18,904 15s. 2d. has been received for the building fund for the "Tabernacle." The expenditure has been £10,904 15s. 2d. (the land for the site costing £5100 of that sum), so that there is still in hand £8000; but as the contract for the building was £20,000, £1000 of which has only yet been paid, a sum of £12,000 has still to be made up to complete the erection.

STARVATION AND CANNIBALISM.—The wreck of the ship *Constant*, from Sydney for Manila, on a sunken reef, in lat. 5.43 N., long. 155.38 E., is announced. The ship appears to have broken up almost immediately, the crew escaping in the boats, but with scarcely any provisions or water. For days and days, exposed to a scorching sun, they suffered fearfully. They left the wreck in the boats on the 17th of July. From that time till the 1st of September they visited several islands in the hope of obtaining food and succour, but failed. They then resolved to draw lots as to which of them should sacrifice his life for the common benefit, and after five days' deliberation they killed one of the negroes, and his body was quickly devoured. Some days afterwards they resolved to murder another negro for the same purpose. The man was asleep at the time, but waking up, and hearing of their intention, attempted to escape by jumping overboard. A shot fired by one of the crew killed him on the spot, and his body was eaten. In this horrible manner the crew subsisted till the 29th of September, when they were picked up and landed at Sourabaya, most of them being in a shocking state.

THE CALIFORNIAN SILVER MINES.—M. Peligot, a professor of chemistry in Paris, has received a specimen of mineral silver, which reached General Morin, the Director of the Conservatoire des Arts et Metiers, from California, a few days since. It is said to have been taken from a mine which occupies a surface of twenty-five square miles, and is of great depth. The mineral is described as remarkably pure and rich, containing not less than 26 per cent of silver, together with a fair proportion of gold, copper, and antimony. Should the mine be as rich as it is described it will, in the opinion of the learned chemist, restore the equilibrium between the relative value of gold and silver, which was beginning to be disturbed.

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ILLUSTRATED TIMES.

SATURDAY, APRIL 7, 1860.

THE "TASMANIA" CASE AND ITS LESSONS.

THE following dismal little paragraph, from one of our morning contemporaries, may well set us thinking, especially at the present crisis:—

THE "GREAT TASMANIA."—MORE DEATHS AT THE LIVERPOOL WORKHOUSE.—On Monday Patrick Whelan, and yesterday James Halliday, soldiers who came home from India in the *Great Tasmania*, died at the Liverpool workhouse—the former from dropsy and the latter from dysentery, induced by their sufferings on board that vessel. According to the calculation of the governor of the workhouse there has been, including the men above mentioned, one death in every thirteen of the soldiers who embarked on board the ship.

We have not quite understood the indifference with which the *Tasmania* affair seems to have passed over. The men suffering were men who helped to save India; the causes were the same as those which produced the Crimean disasters. There is no less reason why the public should be angry, or shocked, or warned, than there was during the Russian war; but the public requires a picturesque and extensive scene of misery to rouse it, and (the Indian mutiny having gone by) has relapsed into its customary apathy about Indian affairs.

The story of the *Tasmania* is a very simple one. Government contracted for the passage and rations of certain soldiers whom it was bound to send home. The soldiers embarked, and it soon became evident that very imperfect arrangements had been made for their accommodation. The food was bad; the water was bad. There were no means of keeping the men in health, or of healing them if they were sick. The natural results followed—they began to die off, or to lay up; and the *Tasmania* arrived in Liverpool in the condition of an hospital-ship. As the men were discharged, and had no longer a claim on the Government, such as were sick went to the workhouse, where, like the two unlucky fellows whose names are above given, some of them have died. So short is the transition from the place of a "defender of the country" to that of a social outcast! But, indeed, the workhouse has been the last quarters of many a man who has fought for England.

We are not prepared to apportion the blame of the *Tasmania's* condition among those who are responsible for it. But two parties must clearly be in fault, whatever be their fair proportions of the disgrace. In the first place, the contractors must have failed to fulfil their duty; and, in the second place, the officials whose business it was to check them cannot have done theirs. Only a rigid inquiry on the spot could settle exactly whose fault it has been, and how. We hope that such is now being made; and that no considerations apart from those of strict justice will enter into the ultimate decision of the authorities. Probably the men need not have insisted on their discharge; but, at least, they had a right to it. It is certain, too, that the lives which some of them had been leading before they embarked had predisposed them to illness by damaging their constitutions. But this does not exculpate the offenders either. Everybody on board that vessel had a right to decent nutriment and good medical attendance; and it is nothing to the purpose how severe, more or less, the absence of these may have been. The offence lies in their absence at all.

People who never mix with the classes to which our soldiers and sailors belong have no notion of the harm which a story like that of the *Tasmania* does to the public service. They read it out of the papers to each other; they talk about it infinitely more than about those large political questions which some wisacres fancy them always occupied with. They keep the impression of it for years, as all people of limited observation cling to what has ever interested them vividly. And, by and by, such impressions tell on the manning of a fleet or the recruiting of a regiment. Just at present the public service is not nearly so popular as it ought to be; and in a period when nobody knows how soon we may want the entire confidence of people. The ugly symptoms evinced in our newly-formed Channel fleet last year are not yet forgotten. Discipline is not so easily maintained as it used to be; and what is more, it will never be so easily maintained by the rough methods. Strictness we must have, but any strictness not based on justice and good treatment will be found untenable. There were horrors in the last great war, arising from mismanagement, worse, even, than those of the *Tasmania*; but the men were less critical then, and had more of the old, ineradicable instinct of obedience. This was the lever in them by which they were brought round from the Mutiny, but we must not rely too blindly on it now.

There are always men in a country like ours ready to make political capital out of a disaster. When one arises such men are ready with their cry of "There's your peerage!" or "There's your extended suffrage!" as the case may be. And this becomes so stale that the authorities assailed fall back on their authority, and shut their ears to all remonstrance because some remonstrances are factions. But no sensible Government will allow itself to be betrayed into this. It will inquire into every grievance, and redress every wrong it can; for by this course alone may we hope to weather the storm which, as even the most sanguine admit, seems at least possible ahead of us. With all our grumbling, Englishmen have got accustomed to believe in the invincibility and ultimate triumph of their country, let officials make what mistakes they may. But just in proportion to this confidence would any serious check to it be; and few, perhaps, appreciate the real danger to our internal order and institutions that would accrue from any great calamity in a war.

RAILWAY STATISTICS.—The whole capital invested in railways in the United Kingdom at the end of 1858 was £235,375,567—the whole of which had been invested in about thirty years. The length of the railways was 9542 miles; number of passengers conveyed, 139,193,699; receipts of the whole railway companies from the carriage of passengers was £10,570,909, which, added to the revenue obtained from carriage of merchandise and from all sources, made a total of £23,956,749. The total expenditure was £15,665,953, leaving net receipts of £8,350,816. The number of trains which started was 3,317,479; the number of persons employed on lines, 109,320; and on lines in course of construction, 38,995. The number of persons killed by railway accidents was 279; and the number injured, 566.

SAYINGS AND DOINGS.

HER MAJESTY AND THE ROYAL FAMILY left town for Windsor on Monday. QUEEN VICTORIA is expected in Berlin about the end of June. The accompaniment of the Princess Frederick William is expected to take place in July.

THE KING OF SARDINIA has conferred the title of Count upon Farini, and invested him with the grand collar of SS. Maurizio and Lazzaro, and has also granted him an annual pension of 30,000*fr.*

THE ARCHDUKE FERDINAND OF AUSTRIA, who has returned from the Brazils, has been summoned by the Emperor to sit in the Council of the Empire.

THE DEATH OF THE DOWAGER COUNTESS OF ELGIN will postpone Lord Elgin's departure for China for a short time.

THE RECEPTION OF FATHER LACORDAIRE as a member of the French Academy will take place in May. M. Guizot will reply to the address of the new academicians.

THE NATIONAL PORTRAIT GALLERY, Great George-street, Westminster, will be freely open, without tickets, on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday in Easter week, from ten to five o'clock. At other times admission is limited to Wednesdays and Saturdays between the hours of twelve and five.

ON AND AFTER THE 1ST OF JULY NEXT the minimum age of candidates for direct commissions in the Army will be fixed at eighteen years.

GENERAL LORD SEATON has been promoted to a Field Marshalship.

LORD HARRIS is appointed a Lord in Waiting to the Queen, in the room of Lord Byron, resigned.

A CHILD was being christened the other day at Idrigehay Church, when the mother gave the name of Lucy, forgetting at the moment that she had another child of the same name. It was only at the conclusion of the ceremony, and when it was too late to make a change, that the mother found out her mistake.

THE *Journal des Debats* is said to have become an Imperial organ. The *Revue des Deux Mondes* is now the only independent organ of French opinion.

AN ARMSTRONG GUN, with a guaranteed range of nine miles, is reported to have been sent from the Ordnance Works near Newcastle. The destination of this terrific piece of ordnance is Shoburyness.

THE FRENCH MISSION TO ABYSSINIA, respecting the establishment of a French port in the Red Sea, found the country on their arrival in a state of civil war, and were obliged, after many hair-breadth escapes, to take refuge at the English settlement of Aden.

MR. JUSTICE WILLIAMS, in a late address to the Cambridge grand jury, attributed the paucity of criminal cases, not to the decrease of crime, but to the allowance for expenses to prosecutors and witnesses being inadequate.

THE DEFENCES OF THE CHANNEL ISLANDS are being carried on with great vigour, and it is the opinion of competent judges that, when these fortifications of the Channel Islands have been completed, all chance of annoyance from Cherbourg will be quite out of the question.

THE "GREAT TASMANIA" AFFAIR has resulted in a sweeping order for the dismissal of the staff officers at Chinsurah, where the passengers by that vessel remained for weeks in a state of drunkenness and demoralisation previous to embarkation.

THE ABBE ILL, formerly a missionary in China and Thibet, and well known for his excellent work on the last-named country, has just died in Paris, after a short illness.

A TREATY OF COMMERCE between France and Belgium is talked of. We hear that the duty on Belgian cast iron will be fixed at 2*fr.* the 100 kilos., and that the system of reciprocity is to be admitted for the plate-glass manufactures of the two countries.

THE UNIVERSITY BOAT RACE, in which so much interest has been felt by those interested in aquatic sports, came off at Putney on Saturday. Both sides displayed great skill and spirit, and the race resulted in favour of Cambridge.

THE SOUTH KENSINGTON MUSEUM, with the pictures presented by Mr. Sheenshanks, the pictures of the National Gallery (British School), and the Art Schools for male students, will be opened free every morning and evening, from the 9th to the 14th inclusive. Hours—Daytime, from 10 to 5; evening, from 7 till 10.

THE NEW CHAPEL which has been recently erected in the grounds of the Hospital for Diseases of the Chest at Victoria Park was opened for Divine worship on Sunday last. The building, which has cost a sum of nearly £2000, is the gift of an anonymous friend of the charity for the use of the patients residing in the hospital.

THE ASSERTION MADE BY TELEGRAPH last week of the English fleet having gone to Naples was, it seems, erroneous, as a letter of the 26th from that city states there were only two vessels of war in the roadstead, one English (the *Orion*, 91 guns), the other Russian.

CAPTAIN FRANCIS GEE has been appointed a Military Knight of Windsor.

A MEMORIAL in favour of erecting Cornwall into a bishopric has received more than one thousand and four hundred signatures, among which are those of two hundred and twenty clergymen and sixty county magistrates (laymen). It is to be presented to Lord Palmerston.

AN ARAB RISING has taken place in Algiers, but seems to have been rapidly suppressed by General Desmaret.

THE REV. N. W. JACKSON, Chaplain to the Bishop of Barbadoes, has been elevated to the bishopric of Antigua. This appointment appears to be made as an acknowledgment of the claims of colonial clergymen.

A SANATORIUM AND INVALID HOSPITAL is to be established at the Cape of Good Hope for the reception of the sick and disabled troops belonging to the various corps serving in China.

THE BRIST FLEET, under the command of Admiral Paris, sailed on Thursday week from that port for the Mediterranean. It is composed of the screw-ship of the line *Redoubtable*, bearing the Admiral's flag, the *Impérial*, and the *Arcole*.

THE *Weekly Register* reports that throughout England the collection for the Pope is proceeding with vigour. Bishop Grant, of Southwark, has already forwarded two sums of £500 each. Liverpool is expected to forward £7000, of which sum £500 has been contributed by Mr. Challoner.

THE EMPEROR OF AUSTRIA has published an ordinance intended to promote the cultivation of tobacco in Hungary, Croatia, Transylvania, the Walvodine, and the Banat.

THE TUSCAN GOVERNMENT has decreed that all property in mortmain shall be redeemable at the cost of a capital bearing interest equal to the annual value of the property.

RECKONING IMPORTS AND EXPORTS, and including specie of all kinds, the external trade of Great Britain may now be estimated at £400,000,000 sterling per annum.

A DISTRESSING FIRE took place in Somers-town on Tuesday. It resulted in the destruction of a large amount of property and the loss of one life.

COLONEL MURR, M.P., one of the most learned and accomplished scholars of the present age (author of "The Critical History of the Language and Literature of Ancient Greece"), died, on the 1st inst., in the sixty-second year of his age.

THE "GREAT EASTERN" is associated with another fatal accident. On Sunday a boat which was leaving this leviathan ship capsized, and the foreman of the carpenters who are at work on board was drowned.

THE TURKISH AMBASSADOR contradicts the report that his Government was engaged in negotiating a new loan.

MR. R. HALL DARE, justice of the peace for the county of Sligo, and late a member of Parliament, has been sentenced to a month's imprisonment for an outrage on the wife of one of his gamekeepers.

A PORTION OF THE IRON ROOFING over the Victoria Station of the North-Western Railway at Manchester fell in, on Tuesday, through a train coming in contact with, and breaking, a pillar which supported a corner of the roof. One of the company's servants, was injured by the fall, but not dangerously.

CASLES, the murderer of his wife, at Luton, was executed on Saturday at the county goal.

A YOUNG LADY NAMED LOWTHER, of York, rose in the night lately, and drowned herself. She had formed an attachment which her friends disapproved; and this had thrown her into despondency.

ROOMING THE BOURSE.—"So cheerful did the prospect of English estrangement (after Lord John Russell's remarkable speech of last week) make the Paris speculators that the Three per Cents actually went up from 6*fr.* 30*c.* to 7*fr.* 35*c.* We in this country of insolent and unbridled freedom cannot understand such a result. It is reserved for nations with a more cautious and paternal Government to connect warlike rumours with increased confidence. Dare we whisper that the favourable result on the Bourse was in some measure caused by the application of funds not exactly the property of private speculators, and that Imperial France interested herself to prove that it was not afflicted by the remarks of the British Secretary? The result of this interference was of course decisive. For two days French securities bade defiance to all the hatred of a perfidious rival, and even the lifeless five-franc pieces obeyed the genius of Government manipulators; but, unhappily, a reaction has come. After a short period of inflated credit, the Three per Cents have sunk to their former level, and, perhaps, may be destined to a still further decline."—*The Times*.

THE LOUNGER AT THE CLUBS.

IN my last communication I said, "The policy of the Conservatives is now fairly unmasked. The Reform Bill is not to be openly fought, but delayed and obstructed in its progress by every possible manoeuvre that party ingenuity can devise." This policy has, since I wrote, been so far successful that the adjourned debate on the bill has been postponed until after Easter. It is to come on, Lord John Russell announced, on the 19th or 20th. It will most likely be put down for the 19th (Thursday), as Fridays are now given up for independent members to disport themselves thereon. And now what chances are there that this Fabian policy of the Conservatives will still further succeed? Well, to answer this question, let us look a little closer in the matter. Parliament after its reassembling—supposing that it sit until the second week in August—will have about fifteen weeks for business (there are sixteen weeks between the 16th of April and the usual time of prorogation, but one week must be allowed for the Whitsuntide holidays); and by inexperienced people outside fifteen weeks will be considered amply sufficient for the passing of the bill; but on analysing these fifteen weeks we shall, possibly, come to a different conclusion. In the first place, we must knock off six weeks for the consideration of the bill by the Lords. We cannot allow their Lordships less time than this, and it would not be surprising if they were to allege that this is much too little for so important a business. We have then nine weeks for the Commons; but, secondly, we must remember that the Government has only the Mondays and Thursdays of these weeks. It may, it is true, seize upon the Fridays, but with that growing habit of discussion on the adjournment it will not avail them much to do this. Well, then, I find further that, this being so, these nine weeks will only produce for Government eighteen clear days for its business. But now, thirdly, how many days must we strike off for other business than that of Reform—such as the voluminous and highly-important Bankruptcy Bill—those portentous Irish measures just laid upon the table, &c., &c., and last, not least, for Supply, which, of course, must stand before everything else? Am I wrong in striking off nine? Let the experienced say. We will, provisionally, decide upon nine, leaving nine for Reform. It is true there are Wednesdays, which are not nominally members' days; but as Wednesdays are usually occupied by independent members, and are rarely available for Government, we must not rely upon them. And, further, there will be morning sittings on other days; but still I am not disposed to alter my reckoning, as I am quite sure I have not allowed nearly time enough for Government bills, other than the Reform Bill, and for Supply.

Now, then, arises the question, what chances are there that the Conservatives will, under these circumstances, be able to defeat this bill? My own opinion is that there is every probability that it will succeed. Indeed, I can see very little chance for the bill. A resolute Government with an enthusiastic party behind it might pass it, for a resolute Government backed by an enthusiastic party might insist upon sitting on to November rather than lose it. But the Government, unless I am blind, is not resolute, and, especially, the Government party is not enthusiastic. On the contrary, I have very much mistaken the signs and omens which have come before me if the Government party is not secretly as desirous as the Conservatives are to hustle the bill out of the way. Most of the Liberal must, of course, make some show of zeal to pass the measure for decency sake, but under this cloak I have no doubt that the real aim will be "how not to do it."

And, if the bill should be defeated this year, shall we have a Reform Bill next? I doubt that also. You will observe that on Tuesday Mr. Deedes suggested that the Reform Bill should be postponed until after the Census of 1861; and, if the bill now before the House should be thrown out, you may rely upon it that this suggestion will not be lost sight of. Indeed, what can be more reasonable? If we are to have a bill, some of the clauses of which are to be based on the Census, surely we ought to take the new and not the old Census. And, as the new Census will not be ready next Session, of course the bill must be put off until 1862. To men anxious rather for delay than promptitude the logic, as it seems to me, will be irresistible.

THE LITERARY LOUNGER.
THE MAGAZINES.

THE great feature in the new number of the *Cornhill Magazine* is the publication of a fragmentary sketch of a novel by the late Mrs. Nicholls (Charlotte Brontë). The opening chapter, as usual, treats of school life; and the readers are introduced to a strange, weird child of doubtful parentage and mysterious belongings. There is nothing very extraordinary in the writing, though, doubtless, it will evoke much laudatory criticism. Neither "Jane Eyre" nor "Villette" were attractive at their commencement; and what is this month printed of "Emma" might have been written by any Marlborough-street hack. The fragment is prefaced by a couple of pages of introduction from the editor of the magazine, who institutes an analogy between the tale and the sketch of an unfinished picture which he had recently seen standing on the easel of the deceased artist Mr. Leslie, and expresses his belief that there is a record kept of "fancies conceived, beautiful, unborn. Some day they will assume form in some yet undeveloped light." In this frame of mind he says:—

Some day our spirits may be permitted to walk in galleries of fancies more wondrous and beautiful than any achieved works which at present we see, and our minds to behold and delight in masterpieces which poets' and artists' minds have fathered and conceived.

Noble notion of the infinite and the eternal!—that our spirits shall walk—ours! the spirits now allied to our shilling-paying, Bloomsbury-inhabiting vile bodies shall walk in galleries! It is too much. But the delight of the idea is tempered, is poisoned, by a horrible thought of some of the "unborn masterpieces" which will "assume form in some yet undeveloped light"! There was a burked infant of Mr. Ainsworth called "Revelations of London;" many immature offspring of *Punch*, including "Mrs. Bib's Baby" and "Miss Robinson Crusoe." Are we to meet all these and "behold and delight" in them in *secula seculorum*? Heaven forbid! This introductory matter is, as may be supposed, warmly eulogistic of Mrs. Nicholls's talents, and the dictionary is ransacked for terms in which to convey the writer's sentiments. Among other things he speaks of "her pious love and reverence," to the fitness of which terms all attentive readers of her works will immediately testify. "Love the Widower" takes front rank in the pages of the magazine this month, and is continued with the usual spirit. Captain Baker, a gentleman labouring under delirium tremens, is the latest addition to the category of liars, thieves, petty pilferers, and deceivers in general, who so admirably represent modern society. Mr. Trollope's "Framley Parsonage" is, of course, pleasant and readable; but this four months' experience shows pretty plainly that the author's style is scarcely fitted for serial publication. Unlike Garrick's, as described in Goldsmith's "Retaliation," it is not sufficiently "peppared" to be "surest to please" the present public taste. Mr. Sala still gossips pleasantly of Hogarth, and diffusely of everything connected with the great English art-humorist's life and times. His very discursiveness, however, is rich in apposite anecdote and quaint illustration. Throughout the series each single fact connected with Hogarth's life has been introduced at the proper time; and in the present number we are led, step by step, in tracing his career, works—the political squibs and bookellers' plates which he executed, which small beginnings are usually ignored by those biographers who only knew him as the painter of "The Marriage à la Mode" and "The Rake's Progress." There is a plethora of information in the present instalment, somewhat strongly seasoned, perhaps, with French and Latin expletive, as is the fashion with the great master under whose banner Mr. Sala now marches. To say that a date is "circa 1720," that an offender was "relegated to the *carcere duro* of Bridewell," to express the intensity of your appreciation of an absurdity by the phrase "Je crois de rien," or your inability to speak positively as to a fact by the use of the word "ignoramus," shows, not scholarship, but an affected quaintness, and is a more trick of writing utterly below the mark of a man like Mr. Sala, who has a perfectly reliable style of his own, and a command of that pure well of English undefiled which, in conjunction with his remarkable powers of observation, has

raised him to an eminence which, in my humble opinion, will never be thoroughly allowed until after his death. Were I a *Cornhill Magazine* writer I would say, "Absit omen!" As a humble Lounger I may be permitted to remark, may that period be long deferred, for the sake of ourselves and of modern English literature! There is no difficulty in accrediting Mr. Albert Smith with the authorship of a light and lively paper, called "Inside Canton," thoroughly realistic, and abounding in those hard-hitting and grotesque comparisons between ordinary and fictional life, to the invention of which Mr. Smith can lay claim and for the use of which he is famous. Nor would it puzzle a conjuror to detect the matter-of-fact common sense and peculiar plain speaking of Mr. Hollingshead in the article "Ideal Houses," although the clever word-painting lacks the philosophic penetration in which he usually indulges. There are three scientific papers, a continuation of Mr. Lewis's "Studies in Animal Life," a very succinct and uncommonly sickening description of the amputation of a leg under the influence of chloroform, and a treatise on gunnery called "Long Shots and Straight Shots." There are also two poems, one singularly ungrammatical and incoherent, entitled "Strangers Yet," by Mr. Monckton Milnes, and a set of verses on "Spring," signed "Thomas Hood," and supposed to be by the son of that sweetest of simple English poets. This gentleman, if not inheriting his father's powers, has, at least, a curious existence. Strange impulses—like *vernal sties*—make him "wander at their will." What is a "vernal stie"? Is it the hitherto undiscovered perpetual motion? or the motive power acting on the Wandering Jew? or the secret spring animating the cork leg fitted to the unfortunate Dutch gentleman, and renowned in song? Seriously, the verses are very poor, unworthy either their position or the name of their author.

To this number Mr. Millais has contributed one of the most perfect and lovely drawings ever seen.

A review of the "Life of Wellington," written by Captain Brialmont, of the Belgian army, translated and amended by Mr. Chaplain-General Gleig, is the opening paper in this month's *Blackwood*. It is immediately succeeded by an article espousing vigorously the cause of Lady Hamilton, rescuing her fame from many slurs cast upon it by Captain Brenton in his "Naval History," showing the great services also rendered to the British Government, and demolishing with good strong phraseology all who dare to hold opposite opinions. In this latter category is to be found Lord Holland, who is described as an "unscrupulous and contemptible scandal-monger," and who, it is predicted, will be "known to posterity," "not as the polished and agreeable host, flatterer and flattered, but as the author of three or four of the silliest and most malignant little volumes in the language." A translation of the "Stabat Mater," by Mr. P. S. Worsley, is not very brilliant. "Undone" is scarcely an epithet to express the agonies and sufferings of the Saviour, and "her dear one's pain" is open to the same objection. There is an enthusiastic review of "Alison's History of Europe," in which the writer's "perfect impartiality, great knowledge, and perfect integrity" are loudly trumpeted, while opposing critics are very roughly handled. Under the title "Poetic Aberrations," Mrs. Browning's latest book, "Poems before Congress," receives a severe and well-merited castigation. In this instance *Maga* shows her thorough impartiality in literary matters, for Mrs. Browning is an old *Blackwood* contributor. The success of the "Sly Little Man," published some two or three months ago, has induced the writer to continue song-writing in a similar strain, but he has never been so happy as in his first effort. The "Rulers of the Land," and "Our Worthy Friend Nap," the specimens in this number, are poor enough. One of the political papers this month, "Parliamentary Duelling," descriptive of the passage of arms which occurred lately between Messrs. Disraeli, Horsman, and Gladstone, is very spirited, and, withal, very fair.

Macmillan is slowly but surely progressing, and giving more articles of general interest. The manner in which subjects are treated is so good that it is the more to be regretted when these subjects themselves are interesting only to a few. This month there is a review of the poetical works of J. R. Withers, a Cambridgeshire labouring man, and a graceful plea for their author, by Miss Mulock. Mr. Charles Collins pleasantly narrates his experiences of a visit to Hogarth's tomb, and chivalrously champions the position of that Art for which he has heretofore as well as personal affection. Some lines, "Requiescant in Pace," by Mr. Monckton Milnes, are very melodious and very touching, and make one regret the mental aberration, under the name of poems, with which he has recently disfigured the pages of the *Cornhill*. The monthly instalment of "Tom Brown at Oxford" is admirable. The story is kept up with unflinching spirit, while the author's unpretentious moralising are the sentiments of a Christian and a gentleman. The story forms a strong contrast to the ribald slang which has been put before the public as mirrored University life.

The *Universal Review* is rather heavy this month; but Mr. Jeaffreson's tale makes good progress, and there is a genial notice of a book of poems by William Stigant, which will probably lead to a wider appreciation of its author, and an ingenious and hearty paper on the "English Country Gentleman."

The *Dublin University* has a good story, "The Winning and the Wooing of Amy O'Neil," a clever art review, and some pretty verses.

The most interesting paper in the *English Woman's Journal* is a notice of Madame Henrietta Brown.

THE WHITWORTH AND ARMSTRONG GUNS.

SINCE the conclusion of Mr. Whitworth's valuable experiments at Southport a tabular summary of the result of each trial of the 3, 12, and 80 pounders, at different degrees of elevation, has been carefully prepared. This table shows such marvellous results to have been obtained with each description of ordnance, both as regards range and accuracy, that we give it to our readers in *extenso*.

Summary of Experiments with Mr. Whitworth's Tuffed Cannon at Southport, showing the Mean Range and Deviation of all the Shots fired at each Experiment:—

Date.	Calibre of Guns.	Elevation.	No. of Shots Fired.	B. Range.	C. Longitudinal Deviation.	D. Lateral Deviation.
Feb. 22	3-pounder	Deg. 3	10	1579	12	52
15	"	10	5	4174	27	147
16	"	"	5	4199	87	505
23	"	10	10	3842	48	323
15	"	20	4	6793	58	183
16	"	"	4	6969	69	888
22	"	"	5	6647	109	704
22	"	"	4	6421	94	120
23	"	"	11	6063	93	583
15	"	35	4	9045	96	102
16	"	"	5	9580	81	100
22	12-pounder	"	5	1247	21	87
16	"	5	5	2324	11	147
22	"	"	10	2333	16	108
23	"	"	10	2319	22	200
21	"	7	4	3049	11	20
21	"	"	4	3063	9	0
16	"	10	5	4977	59	81
23	"	"	10	4974	37	81
15	80-pounder	5	2	2375	36	0
23	"	"	2	2474	0	0
16	"	"	4	4166	8	0
22	"	10	2	4704	50	0
22	"	"	4	4490	59	17

Column A shows the number of shots fired at each experiment, B shows their average range in yards, C shows their average longitudinal deviation, and D their average lateral deviation from a central point, according to the system adopted at Southport.

All these experiments, be it remembered, were conducted from first to last by amateur gunners, without accident or delay of any kind, and during the prevalence of wind and weather both about the most unfavourable that could well be imagined.

Mr. Sidney Herbert has stated in the House that, as the Whitworth guns had exceeded the Armstrong in range, and very nearly, as far as

could be judged from the rough experiments, equalled it in accuracy, the Government were prepared to take the usual steps to give both a comparative trial at Shoeburyness. This very fair decision of the War Office has given rise to some dissatisfaction among many of the supporters of the Armstrong gun, who allege that Mr. Whitworth has only obtained greater range by reducing the diameter of his projectile, and, of course, therefore, the bore of the cannon itself; quite forgetting that, as long as that gentleman can prove that a great improvement is brought about by the adoption of certain principles, the public and the military authorities will care very little whether the principles themselves are new or old. By Mr. Whitworth's plan of reducing the diameter of the shot, and therefore the bore of the gun, he contends that not only are the range and accuracy increased, but the gun itself can be constructed of the same relative strength of metal though nearly two-thirds lighter than the ordinary brass guns. The value of this reduction must be apparent to every one. The celebrated 3-pounder gun of Whitworth, with carriage and limber complete, could be brought into action and manoeuvred and served with the utmost rapidity by two horses and two men only. In this respect, however, the Whitworth gun has no advantage over that of Armstrong; on the contrary, as far as we have yet seen, the Armstrong large guns are much lighter. It has been stated as a kind of objection to the almost astounding results both for range and accuracy which Mr. Whitworth obtained at Southport with such small charges of powder, that Sir William Armstrong had only constructed his ordnance with a view to securing accuracy, and that had he chosen to construct a gun for range alone he would have distanced Mr. Whitworth in that respect. But the terms "long range" and "great accuracy" mean one and the same thing. Guns are only made with one object, which is, after all, that of throwing their shot in the straightest line, and it therefore of necessity follows that the gun which can send its shot furthest in a straight line secures the greatest accuracy by attaining the greatest range. Sir William Armstrong states that beyond a certain distance range for general purposes has no practical value, and that as for artillerymen firing in the field at objects five miles distant, without any clue to guide them but their eye, they might as well fire at the moon. It is not only a question of which shot goes furthest, but what the shot effects when it does reach the mark. The formation of his gun, he states, has not been his chief or only object, which, in fact, has been as much directed to inventing the most destructive projectile.

To secure this all-important object he has been compelled to give up to a certain extent the attainment of an immense range, and increase the diameter of his gun in order to enable it to carry the Armstrong shell, which for destructiveness deserves to be almost more celebrated than the gun itself. Thus he states that as yet no fair comparison can be drawn between the results he has achieved while trying only for destructive effect, and the results obtained by a gun which was merely fired for range.

The real test as to their merits both he and Mr. Whitworth justly maintain can only be got by putting the two guns side by side, and trying them under similar conditions for range, accuracy, and, above all, for destructive effect. It has been suggested that there is room in the service for both the Armstrong and Whitworth guns, as each weapon has its peculiar attributes and its peculiar supporters. This, however, is taking a view of the case in which we think neither the public nor the War Office is at all likely to agree. Sir William Armstrong claims to have constructed his gun on certain fundamental principles; these Mr. Whitworth disregards, and forms his gun as unlike Sir William's in principle as two guns can well be. Now, both these ordnance cannot be right, and whichever comes out of the trials at Shoeburyness triumphantly is the gun to be eventually adopted in both services as soon as is consistent with the present immense demand for rifled ordnance of almost any kind.

The Whitworth gun, as distinguished from the Armstrong, is bored from one solid cylinder of homogeneous iron, or soft, tough steel. There is no rifling, as is generally understood by the term, in the bore, which is a plain hexagon, making one complete turn, which varies with the diameter of the gun. Thus there is one turn in about eight feet in the largest guns (from 50 to 120 pounders), one complete turn in five feet in the medium-sized ordnance (12 to 32 pounders), and one complete turn in three feet four inches in the small guns, or from three to twelve pounders. All the guns above 18-pounders are hooped round with rings of iron, forced on by hydraulic pressure—an additional strength which is apparently not required, and which in weight gives the Armstrong guns of the same calibre a most important advantage. The breech-loading arrangement is a hinge at the end of the gun, supporting a hoop of iron, in which is the breech or cap which screws on to the end of the piece, according to the way in which we have already described it to our readers. The shot is of cast iron, and in form precisely like a nailpin, with its thickest part at the middle pared off to fit with mechanical precision the hexagonal sides of the bore. Thus the projectile has a bearing surface on the whole of the barrel, and runs freely in or out of the gun; so that in case of an enemy's shot striking the breech, and jamming the screw, or other injury to it, the gun could be used as a muzzle-loader with the same facility as an ordinary smooth-bore field-piece. This is not the case with the Armstrong, anything happening to the arrangement of the breech at once rendering the gun useless till another breech is fitted on. No exertion of force which could be applied to the gun in the field would get the shot down the barrel of the Armstrong.

The Armstrong shot-chamber adds to the length of the gun, without being rifled or assisting in impelling the shot in any way. With the Whitworth the gun is rifled throughout its entire length, and every inch is used to aid the flight of the projectile. From the chamber in the Armstrong being of a certain size, it follows that only shot of a certain length can be used. In the Whitworth, on the contrary, it is contended that shots of any length, or a charge of powder of any strength, can be used indifferently. Thus the 3, 12, and 80 pounders are, in fact, only guns of that calibre as long as they are required to throw a distance of five miles or five miles and a half. Hence this range to the distance at which long-range guns are generally used—say 3000 yards—and the length of the projectiles of these ordnance may be more than doubled: the 3-pounder used for 91b. shot, the 12-pounder for 32lb. shot, and the 80-pounder for a shot of even 200lb. In naval warfare great weight must be attached to these advantages: 12-pounder boat-guns could be used as 12-pounders or 36-pounders, according to the distance at which they chose to engage; while ships could double-shot, or even treble-shot, their broadside guns as they closed with an enemy.

As the Armstrong is now used without sponging out, Mr. Whitworth's advantage in this respect has been neutralised. As regards cost, the Armstrong is now being manufactured for as low as £103 per gun. The cost of the Whitworth is at present quite double this amount, though it might be reduced to as low or even slightly lower than the cost of the Armstrong if the barrel were manufactured of tubes of rolled bar iron, instead of the homogeneous metal, which is very expensive, and not stronger, we believe, than the wrought iron of Armstrong.

If in the trials of the two guns at Shoeburyness the Whitworth is found to be the best, and is ordered to be adopted, and its tube made on the wrought iron plan which the Government use with the Armstrong, the only cost of altering the machinery at Elswick and Woolwich to suit the new manufacture would be some £5 or £10 for a new form of cutter for the boring. Not another part of the machinery need be altered or even made to move faster or slower, though much of it might be disused altogether; so we may wait without any pecuniary misgiving the result of the forthcoming trials.

ST. GEORGE'S-IN-THE-EAST.—By direction of Sir Richard Mayne the large body of police (between 200 and 300 men) who have attended the parish church of St. George-in-the-East during the last few weeks have been withdrawn; and at the same time last Sunday there were not more than a dozen present. The congregation took advantage of the circumstances and showed some disposition to be tumultuous, especially during the sermon, which was preached by Mr. Mayne. The lecturer was loudly hissed when he pronounced the benediction from the altar.



NEW UNIFORMS FOR THE FRENCH CAVALRY.

NEW UNIFORMS FOR THE FRENCH CAVALRY.

IN a former impression we gave an illustration of the recent modifications and improvements that have been introduced into the costume of the French infantry. The annexed Engraving shows the changes that have been made in the uniforms of the cavalry regiments. Much of what was ungraceful and useless has been suppressed, the men losing nothing in appearance from the alterations. Instead of the swallow-tailed jacket hitherto worn by the carabiniers a blue tunic has been substituted, which, when the soldiers are mounted, is caught back at the corners. The hussars in future are to wear only the tight-fitting vest, which will be braided in various colours, according to the regiments. The pelisse is to be discarded as cumbersome and useless. It may be interesting to many of our readers to know the origin of this pelisse, still worn by some of our own light cavalry troops. During the invasion of Hungary by the Turks a squadron of Hungarian horsemen were dressing themselves when they were suddenly set upon by a numerous Musulman force. Many of the Hungarians had not sufficient time to get both arms into the sleeves of their pelisses, and most of them vaulted into their saddles, drew their sabres and charged the Turks, with the garment that was but partially on floating behind their backs. The followers of the Prophet were victoriously repulsed, and it is in remembrance of this exploit that the Hungarian cavaliers have since worn the pelisse drooping from their shoulders, a fashion that has been adopted by the hussar regiments of most countries. As far as utility goes it is of no service whatever, and we hope to see our own military authorities do away, like the French, with an incumbrance that serves for nothing but to impede the free use of a man's arms, though many will argue for it as being graceful. What we ought to consult is, not the graceful appearance of a uniform, but rather its usefulness.

NATIONAL INSTITUTION OF FINE ARTS.

ENGLAND is often said by foreigners not to be an artistic nation, which is about as sensible a dictum as that which is uttered, even by those who have felt the force of our arms, about our not being a military nation. In this country Government does nothing for art, except that it has confirmed a gift of George III. to the Royal Academy, which enjoys the privilege of paying no rent, and at the same time of levying shillings from the visitors to its annual exhibition. This, in consideration of the Royal munificence, should be open for at least a portion of the season without charge; but, for the greater glory of art, the Academicians have discovered the secret of getting money from two quarters for the same purpose, and are not likely to give up profiting by it. The shillings of the British public might enable it to dispense with the assistance of Government, and, like other respectable institutions, to pay its rent; while the Government aid, rightly understood, would bind it to admit the public gratuitously to its exhibitions. The Academy, however, prefers to neglect its evident obligations and grow rich. In the meanwhile the public, unaware, for the most part, of the relation in which the Royal Academy stands towards the country, continue to pay their shillings for right of entry to the annual exhibition; encouraged therein, we have no doubt, by the fact of its immense superiority to all the other picture exhibitions of the metropolis. Of galleries in no way connected with the Academy, but of which the directors are for the most part opposed to it, there are as many as seven in London—a large number for the capital of a country to which the epithet of artistic is usually considered inapplicable. Independently of the National Gallery, the Vernon Gallery (now at the South Kensington Museum), the National Portrait Gallery, and the Government galleries at Dulwich and Hampton Court, we have, in addition of that of the Academy, seven annual exhibitions in London—two by Water-colour Societies, one by the Society of Female Artists, one by French and Flemish painters, and three by painters in oil. If England possessed but one great gallery, governed by a committee composed of artists, to ensure technical appreciation of the works sent in, and of connoisseurs of repute, to diminish the chances of favouritism and undue partiality for particular schools, we might make as creditable and imposing an artistic show every year in London as the French do in Paris at the Louvre, or wherever the annual salon happens to be held just now. But the French pursue the centralising and despotic system in all things; and, in artistic matters, under all Governments. Accordingly, the aim at the Salon is to exhibit the very best, and nothing of the worst, that the French can do; and if an artist is not good enough, or too good (which has happened before now), for the committee of taste, he may take his *œuvre* back to his garret, and is at liberty to throw himself into the Seine. In other words, he has no Society of British Artists, or British Institution, or Institution of Fine Arts to appeal to; and this is not only an apparent misfortune but has been a source of profound misery to a number of painters in France. In the best days of art, which, under the present military régime, like literature and all civilising influences, is gradually but certainly declining, some of the first painters in France would refuse for years together, on account of the alleged unfairness of the irresponsible "Jury," to contribute to the Salon; and foreigners who went to the annual exhibition expecting to find there works of Delacroix, Delaroche, and Ary Scheffer, were sometimes astonished to hear that those distinguished artists were all *brouillés* with the directors, and made it a point of honour to have nothing to do with their gallery. Delacroix's four pictures in the Luxembourg were bought and placed there by the express orders of M. Thiers; and this in spite of the strenuous opposition of the members of the Institute, who were full of the conventional classical notions of the first Imperial epoch, and believed that, apart from Greek and Roman subjects, there was no salvation for art. This painter, who gave the French school whatever life it now possesses (by the way, he lived a long while in England, and has often spoken of the effect the

study of Gainsborough had upon him), signs himself, "Member of the Academy of Amsterdam;" and there is something significant in the fact of this man—whom every one, except a few of the most prejudiced partisans among the followers of Ingres, regards as the greatest artist modern France has produced—having to go all the way to Holland for recognition. In England an artist who does not please the committee of the Royal Academy, and who is determined to present himself before the public, has only to go as far as Regent-street, where, unless his picture be in the Pre-Byzantine school, and in that very primitive style of art which required the early painters to write beneath their works, "This is a horse," "This is a cow," it is tolerably sure, in consideration of a moderate sum paid towards the expenses of the room, to be received and fairly exhibited. We must do our Royal Academy the justice to say that it is not nearly so exclusive as the "jury" of the French Salon (who would certainly have rejected a large number of the Pre-Raphaelite distortions that have been allowed to see the light in Trafalgar-square), nor are we aware that on this head any reasonable charge can be brought against it at all; but still there is just a chance every year that some painter of transcendent and strikingly original, and for that reason unappreciated, merit, may make his first appearance before the British public at the Portland Gallery—though we have certainly hitherto looked for such a phenomenon in vain. This year, again, our searches in the direction just indicated have been quite unavailing; but there is this gratifying thing to be noticed in connection with the Portland Gallery—that the number of utterly bad pictures seen there becomes less and less at each succeeding exhibition. At the same time, we are inclined to think

hundred are greatly inferior as works of art to the most simple of Schubert's songs, so it would be difficult, out of all the sacred pictures that England has ever produced, to point to one which possesses as much merit as the slightest sketch of Mulready. The artist, by the force of his genius, may elevate the subject, but the subject will rarely elevate the artist; and when it is quite above his power it merely serves to exhibit his feebleness in the most striking manner possible. We do not know whether the well-known artistic tastes of the High Church party have created a demand for church pictures, but we should think the cheap photography from the cartoons would somewhat interfere with the sale of such things as Mr. Lauder produces among private individuals. The landscapes of this artist are, in all respects, superior to his attempts to illustrate the New Testament.

Mr. A. H. Weigall's "Medora" finds many admirers, thanks to the beauty and picturesque costume of the principal figure and to the general brilliancy of the colouring. One of our contemporaries complains that there is a "Byronic" tone about this work which, considering the subject, we should have thought rather desirable. Mr. Leader, Mr. H. B. Gray, Mr. J. Peel, Mr. Korte, Mr. Hayes, and other artists too numerous to mention, have sent landscapes, river scenes, sea-pieces, animal pictures, &c., many of which possess much merit. Mr. Burgess exhibits a "Puritan Lady," carefully painted, and of which the prim and pretty expression of the face is both characteristic and pleasing. Mr. Rossiter's amusing "Dancing Lesson," and Mr. Cooper's "First Slide," are each good specimens of their author's talents.

Mr. Marks, the mediæval caricaturist, is represented by a not very remarkable drawing called "The Pilgrim;" but there is one caricature in this exhibition, by Miss Florence Claxton, which is admirable, and which, we hope, will be reproduced in numerous places for the delectation of those who adore Pre-Raphaelitism. This exceedingly clever work exhibits Mr. Millais as "Paris" choosing between an Italian Madonna, a beauty of the present day, and a scraggy, carrot-haired, mediæval young person, who, if she made her appearance in the streets of London, would run the risk of being seized by some enthusiastic surgeon and carried off for clinical purposes to one of our hospitals for the cure of spinal curvature. Need we say that it is to the deformed lady the apple of preference is awarded? Another crooked young woman is engaged in the saintly operation of making tea. Pictures by Raphael, Vandyke, and Reynolds have their faces turned to the wall; while portraits of Millais, Ruskin, and *Barnum* (here, however, there is a mistake, as the best of the Pre-Raphaelites are sincere enthusiasts, confirmed in their errors by their immense success) are hung in conspicuous places. On the other side of a partition there is an impossible Pre-Raphaelite landscape, in which grass, pebbles, and blossoms are mixed together. Mr. Hunt's "Scapegoat," one of Mr. Millais' portly nuns; Sir Isumbras, and other well-known Pre-Raphaelite figures, also figure in this caricature, at the back of which, in the distance, a suggestive gallows is seen; though, much as we object to the extravagances of Pre-Raphaelitism, we do not think the most energetic and earnest painters that England has ever possessed quite deserve a hempen reward for their pains.

ARTISTS' GENERAL BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

ON Saturday the annual festival of the Artists' General Benevolent Institution took place at the Freemasons' Tavern. This society was founded in 1814, and its object is to extend relief to distressed meritorious artists, whether subscribers to its funds or not, "whose works have been generally known and esteemed by the public, as well as to their widows and orphans." From the establishment of the society in 1814 to January, 1860, 1859 donations have been granted, in sums amounting in the aggregate to £22,098.

On this occasion the Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone found time amidst his arduous duties to take the chair. Among those present were Earl Stanhope, Sir Charles Eastlake, Sir Roderick Murchison, the Hon. E. Stanhope, Gordon Duff, Esq., M.P., Messrs. David Roberts, T. Creswick, C. Landseer, S. Smirke, W. P. Frith, F. W. Pickersgill, A. Elmore, W. Boxall, E. W. Cooke, Esq.; J. E. Millais, H. O'Neill, Esq.; A. L. Egg, Esq.; J. C. Horsley, F. Taylor, Dawson, G. Hurlestone, and about two hundred other gentlemen.

In proposing the toast of "Prosperity to the Institution, the Chairman, in the course of an elaborate speech, observed:—"This is a time in which the highest professors of all the arts and in all the professions, having attained to a certain position, can usually command abundant, and in some peculiar cases even splendid, means of livelihood. It is also a time when, owing in a great degree to the wise legislation of recent Parliaments, the labouring classes of this country are able to command a rate of remuneration for their toil such as for many long generations has not been the case. But between the great capitalists, the great possessors of estates and those at the head of the professions upon one side, and the mass of the labouring population upon the other, there are the classes which belong to the intellectual departments, who dwell in the lower regions of that department, whose remuneration is in many instances scanty, and even miserable. There is no labour, in fact, in this country so ill paid as that which may be called the labour of educated men in the lower classes of educated men. Art, like everything else, must have among its professors a multitude of shades and degrees of merit and power. It is really astonishing when we come to consider the power of the human mind as developed in the productions of art. What combination, what concentration of character, it requires to produce that something which is represented upon perhaps a yard of canvas, which we call a picture! Slight as they are in fabric, these works are yet reckoned among the greatest productions of which mankind has been the author. It is no wonder that in a pursuit which occupies so immeasurable a space between the highest and lowest grades we should find



A WINTRY WALK.—(FROM A PICTURE, BY W. P. FRITH, IN THE EXHIBITION OF THE PORTLAND GALLERY.)

that the present collection contains fewer works of remarkable ability than several of the previous ones.

Mr. Smallfield, whose "Early Lovers" was so much admired at the last exhibition, exhibits this year only two sketches—"A Wintry Walk" and "The Middy's Presents." In "The Middy's Presents," which consist of objects suggestive of the voyages accomplished by an enterprising young mariner, the principal figure is a young lady to whom the far-fetched treasures have been offered. The "Wintry Walk" shows us a little boy proceeding manfully through the snow with a burden of game on his back.

Mr. Webb contributes a picture, very dramatically conceived, entitled "Caught," in which a fugitive slave is seen in an improvised prison, guarded by the dogs who have hunted him down.

As usual at English and most other exhibitions, the so-called "high-art" pictures are very unsatisfactory, though there is nothing in the pseudo-sacred line quite so bad as the "Cain and Abel" of last year. The chief exponent of religious art at the present exhibition is Mr. Lauder, of whose "Christ Denied by Peter," we can only say that it is not so bad as the "Breaking of Bread" by the same artist. We can understand and excuse the liking painters have for biblical subjects in Catholic countries, where the State orders a certain number of pictures annually for the churches; but in England artists of mediocre ability are not in any way called upon to cultivate a style in which only a very few painters of the highest genius have ever been successful. Any musician who can write for the orchestra can compose something in the form of an oratorio, and, in the same way, any one who can draw can produce a figure with certain conventional attributes, which he is at liberty to call a "Saviour;" but as ninety-nine oratorios out of a

persons who grace the courts and the palaces of the land, and who enjoy all that this world can supply, and others who have to encounter the hardest and most painful struggles, and the labour of whose hands with the chisel or pencil produces them far less than if as mechanics they were engaged in some workshop or foundry. This state of things is due to the working of these laws, which we call political economy, and the operation which work out great and beneficial results in the end, but which also produce by their action distress and disappointment to many persons. There is this point in connection with the occupation of the artist, that his work must always be to him a labour of love, and the feeling with which for the first time he takes a brush in his hand must be very different from that with which the young man attired to an attorney must commence his labours. In my experience of life nothing has struck me more than the high degree of speciality and the peculiar and marked character which attaches to artists. They seem to stand removed to a greater distance from other classes, not in sympathy, but in ability to accomplish what they wish. So far as regards their habits of perception and the exercise of the powers necessary for their art, they seem to me to have a most absorbing power, such as in many instances may disqualify for the homelier operations of the business of life; and though no man can be dispensed from the duties and the daily performances of life, yet this incapacity does attach in some degree to the pursuits of his art, and where an unfortunate incapacity for the performance of these duties is found, it is far less culpable, and should be visited with far less severity than in the case of ordinary men. Another peculiarity in the case of artists is, that the ills and crosses of life act upon them with greater severity than upon other men; just as the man of more sensitive nerves and more fully developed feelings is more sensitive to pain than the mere boor. On these and various other grounds to which reference was made the right hon. gentleman commended the institution to the support of the friends and lovers of art. A common interest should, he said, unite us all, each class was a debtor to the other, and each should seize every suitable occasion for acknowledging those bonds of mutual obligation by which we are united as children of one common father, heirs of one common hope, and as working together for one great and common end."

OPERA AND CONCERTS.

THE company of the Royal Italian Opera will be very nearly what we anticipated—the troupe of last year, minus Mlle. Lotti della Santa, plus Mlle. Cailag and Mme. Miolan-Carvalho, who, this year, is engaged for the whole season. Mme. Grisi, as we mentioned soon after the affair at the Madrid Opera, will appear for twelve nights in those characters in which she has gained her greatest celebrity. Faure, the original Hoel of "Dinorah" at the Opéra Comique, has been engaged, and, as Hoel, will make his first appearance on the opening night, on which occasion Mlle. Sylvia will also make her debut in Mme. Nantier's part of the Goatherd. Of course, however, Mme. Nantier Didiée is re-engaged.

Mr. Gye is not so rich in Italian female vocalists as his rival, Mr. E. T. Smith, who, in Albani and Borghi Mamo, has two artists of the very highest capabilities, not only for contralto but also for principal mezzo-soprano parts. Nor is it likely that Mme. Cailag, who has neither the youth, nor the figure, nor the same power of interesting an audience that Mlle. Titiens possesses, will, in spite of her great merits as a singer, achieve as much success on the stage as the lady we have just mentioned. By the way, the *Telegraph* informs us that Mme. Cailag did not sing in London last season, while the *Times* is of opinion that she only sang once—at the Philharmonic Concerts, and in the scene from "Der Freischütz." The question is not, perhaps, very important, but, as the *Times* heard Madame Cailag sing once in "Der Freischütz," and as the *ILLUSTRATED TIMES*, in the person of the present writer, heard her sing once at the Hanover-square Rooms in the scene from "Fidelio," it follows that she must, altogether, have sung at least twice in London. In tenors, Mr. Gye has Mario to oppose to Giuglini, Tambrilki to Mongini, and Gardoni to Belart. In baritones his superiority is still more incontestable. There is no dramatic singer in the world equal to Ronconi, and none with a more melodious voice or with a purer style than Graziani.

Besides two Italian Operas this summer, we are to have English Opera, commencing on Easter Monday, at Drury Lane, under the direction of Dr. Peck; and French opera at the Lyceum, in May, under the management of M. Laurent.

It is announced that Miss Balfe has just assumed at St. Petersburg the character of "L'Ambassatrice"—the Ambassador being Sir J. Crampton, her Majesty's diplomatic representative.

The last "Monday Popular Concert," which included instrumental works by Mozart, and songs by Beethoven, Handel, Mendelssohn, and other composers, commenced with the celebrated quintet in A major by the first named of the above masters. This work, in which the introduction of the clarinet constitutes a particular feature, was one of the pieces produced immediately after "Don Giovanni" when Mozart was at the same time writing the additional orchestral parts for Handel's "Messiah," the "Jupiter" symphony, and a number of other important works. It was performed in the most masterly manner on Monday evening, the clarinet part being played to perfection by Mr. Lazarus.

The second part of the concert began with the sonata in B flat major for pianoforte and violin (executed by M. Sainton and Benedict), of which the second movement was enthusiastically encored. We have several times called attention to the fact that Mozart is the most popular of the great composers, as he is undoubtedly by far the greatest of all those who can be considered popular. We have seen audiences present at performances of classical music of all kinds, from the learned but not generally interesting preludes and fugues of Sebastian Bach down to the inane quartets of the probably meritorious but decidedly feeble, Onslow. We found that they sat out a great deal of the music with a patience which might have been that of the savant or that of the ass—the demi-savant, as the French used to style that animal in the Egyptian campaign; but we have seldom seen enthusiasm excited by the chamber music of any composer except Mozart. This, we are aware, is not criticism—it is only reporting; but it is interesting to note which of the great masters whose works have been performed at the "Monday Popular" Concerts is really the most popular. Few works, it is true, have been given at those entertainments oftener and with more success than the Kreutzer Sonata of Beethoven, but it has happened to several of Mozart's chamber compositions not only to elicit loud applause but also to call forth that redemand which is the surest sign of public approbation. If asked to explain how it is that Mozart, unlike a number of other composers who are regarded by many as his equals, is at the same time the admiration of learned musicians, and the delight of those who possess no musical knowledge whatever, we should suggest that the latter fact may be accounted for by his rich fertility in tune. It is maintained by their admirers that the works of all the great German masters are full of melody, though the public may not always be able to discover it. In Mozart's compositions, however, it can discover it, the melody being always clear and well defined, in consequence, as it appears to us, of its being thoroughly spontaneous. But be this as it may, on Monday evening the second movement of the sonata in B flat major had to be repeated, and the second movement of the quintet in A major was applauded in a manner very nearly equivalent to a redemand. Mr. Benedict played very finely the fantasia in C minor, which was given on Monday night for the first time at the "Monday Popular" Concerts. This work is a most admirable specimen of the free and fanciful style in which, as in all other styles, Mozart excelled. The striking originality of the fantasia in C minor here suggests to us some remarks made by Mozart himself concerning this same originality of his. "Why productions," he said, "take from my hand that particular form and style that makes them Mozartish, and different from the works of other composers, is probably owing to the same cause which renders my nose so and so, large or aquiline; or, in short, makes it Mozart's, and different from those of other people; for I

really do not study to aim at any originality. I should, in fact, not be able to describe in what mine consists; though I think it quite natural that persons who have really an individual appearance of their own are differently organised from others, both externally and internally." The vocalists at this concert were Mr. Sims Reeves, who was encored in Beethoven's "Oh, beautiful daughter," and Molique's "When the moon," and who afterwards, in consequence of the temporary absence of Mr. Lazarus, when the "Notturmo for Wind Instruments" was about to be played, volunteered Beethoven's "Adelaide;" and Miss Laura Baxter, who gave with much effect an air by Handel, and Mendelssohn's "Savoyard's Song."

Of course a great deal of sacred music has been performed during the present week—"The Messiah" at St. Martin's Hall on Tuesday, and at Exeter Hall on Wednesday, and Rossini's "Stabat Mater" at the Surrey Music Hall on Thursday. We may here mention that the "Stabat Mater" will be given on the 18th of April at St. Martin's Hall, under the direction of Mr. Hullah. The practices of the London Contingent of the Handel Festival Chorus (1600 strong), under the direction of Mr. Costa, are proceeding at intervals with great regularity and proportionate benefit to the general effect. Last week, before a very large audience, the choruses from Mendelssohn's "Elijah" were carefully rehearsed, and the result was, in all respects, highly satisfactory. At the first trial of that great work it was remarked that those choruses the principal characteristics of which are vigour and energy were most successful; the delicate management of light and shade presenting, seemingly, insuperable difficulties to an enormous body of voices. At this last rehearsal the former obstacles vanished, and the choruses, most remarkable for intricate details and ingenious contrivances, requiring the utmost nicety of execution, were quite as well given as those in which a bolder outline is apparent, which are simpler in contrivance, and broader and more massive in effect. Thus, "Blessed are the men," "He watching over Israel," and "He that shall endure to the end will be saved," did quite as much credit to the singers and their conductor as the choruses of the Baalite priests, and others of the same stamp. "Thanks be to God" (at the end of Part I.), although losing more than any other chorus by the absence of orchestral accompaniment, went remarkably well. The weak points were "The Lord God passed by," "Woe to him, he shall perish," and one or two others in the second part, which, considering the elaborate character of these choruses, and their startling originality, is by no means surprising. Time, however, will probably bring them as much under command as those we have named as most successful. At any rate, the grand performance of "Elijah," with 2500 executants, at the Crystal Palace, promises to be a worthy pendant to the Handel Festival, and nothing can conduce to the desired results more certainly than the Exeter Hall rehearsals. Mr. Brownsmith was at the organ, and showed himself as ready and skilful as the instrument (one of the least manageable in England) showed itself capricious and rebellious.

THE REVENUE.

THE accounts for the quarter ending with the last month show a total increase of about £5,000,000, as compared with the corresponding quarter of last year. Out of this sum about thirteen hundred thousand pounds is derived from malt, spirits, and paper. About £3,500,000 are yielded by the income tax owing to the increased rate, and there are small increases under the heads of stamps, Post Office, and miscellaneous items. There is a decrease of about £360,000 on Customs, arising from the operation of the commercial treaty with France. The year's account exhibits an increase of about £340,000 on Customs; this would have been even larger but for the special cause of decrease referred to above. The increase is derived from rum, tea, tobacco, and currants. On Excise there is an increase of nearly £2,500,000—proceeding from almost every item—malt, spirits, paper, and hopes showing the largest increase. On the year the increase in income tax will be nearly £3,000,000. Stamps, Taxes, and Post Office also yield an increase.

The total account for the year gives an increase of about five and a half millions. The only item experiencing a decrease is that entitled "Miscellaneous," which last year included a large sum for the sale of old surplus stores after the Crimean war.

ELECTIONS.—Sir W. Russell and Mr. Warner, the Liberal candidates at the Norwich election, have obtained a victory over their Conservative opponents.—After a sharp siege, the seat vacated by the death of Sir R. Ferguson has been won by Mr. McCormick, the eminent railway contractor. He professes to be a moderate Conservative. The other candidates were Mr. Skipton, moderate Whig, and Mr. Greer, ultra Liberal.—The Berwick-upon-Tweed Election Committee have found that Mr. Marjoribanks has been duly elected. They specify several acts of bribery on both sides, but find that neither Mr. Hodson nor Mr. Marjoribanks consented to or knew of these acts.—Mr. E. Elliot lately inquired in the House of Commons the intentions of Government with reference to the report of the Commissioners appointed by her Majesty to inquire into corrupt practices at elections in the borough of Wakefield. Sir G. Grey said the report had been referred to the law officers of the Crown to consider whether, having regard to the fact that much of the evidence was given by the parties themselves, and would not, therefore, be available in a court of law, it was expedient to institute a prosecution.

THE ROYAL GENERAL THEATRICAL FUND.—Monday being the fifteenth anniversary of this institution, the members dined together at the Freemasons' Tavern, in commemoration of the occasion. Mr. Tom Taylor acted as chairman, with Colonel Lindsay, Colonel Commandant of the St. George's Volunteer Rifle Corps, and Mr. Halliburton, M.P., on his right and left. Some 200 gentlemen were present, including all the more notable professors of the histrionic art in the metropolis; and the festival was also graced by the presence of many ladies.

A CLOUD IN THE EAST.—The Paris correspondent of the *Spectator* (generally well informed) says:—"A fact, hardly fit for publication, though the source from which I have it is most reliable, is this, that fifty thousand muskets and rifles have been shipped at Marseilles on their way to the Danubian Principalities, and for French account. I am much inclined to think that the next question to be settled will be an Oriental one. If Austria and France do not oppose Russian policy what will become of Turkey?"

FRANCE IN THE MEDITERRANEAN.—The French Government has commissioned Count Herbingen, a Captain in the Imperial Navy, to prepare a report on the capabilities of the port of Villafranca, in the newly-acquired territory of the county of Nice. It is said that it is to become a naval establishment of the first order, and a station for part of the Mediterranean fleet. Magnificent quays are likewise to be constructed to facilitate the landing of merchandise.

LANORICIERE AND THE POPE.—The French Government has permitted General de Lanoriciere to take command of the Papal army. He will also be placed in communication with the Neapolitan and Austrian Governments. General de Lanoriciere in politics is an Orleanist; was banished and lived in Belgium; whence the late Lord Holland procured his return to France about eighteen months ago, through the instrumentality of Prince Jerome. The General has already arrived at Rome.

THE FRENCH POPULATION IN NORTH AMERICA.—A letter from Nova Scotia describes the French population in North America. It stands thus:—"In Newfoundland there are, Acadians and Frenchmen, 20,000; the Isles of St. Peter and Miquelon, 2819; Labrador, 1800; Cape Breton, 16,000; Nova Scotia, 16,000; Prince Edward Island, 16,000; and New Brunswick, 25,000—total, 97,610. Taking the census of 1859 as a criterion, the French population of Lower Canada is 700,000; that of Upper Canada, 49,000; and of Hudson's Bay and the north-west territories, 10,000—total, 750,000. So that in the British provinces and the little French islands of St. Peter and Miquelon a Gallic population of about 847,610 may be found. In the United States, those of French origin, according to the last census, are as follows:—Maine, 5000; Vermont, 14,000; New York, 60,000; Ohio, 12,000; Pennsylvania, 6000; Michigan, 30,000; Indiana, 5000; Illinois, 20,000; Wisconsin, 12,000; Minnesota, 15,000; Louisiana, 148,528; Kentucky, 1116; Missouri, 3191; other southern States, 4931; California and the Territories, 25,000; total in the United States in 1859, 361,706; which, added to those already enumerated, affords a French, Canadian, and Creole population in this country of 1,299,375 souls. But these figures are evidently far short of the actual numbers; for natural increase and immigration have so swelled the list within the last decade that it would seem there are at this moment at least 2,000,000 people in North America who speak the French language."

LAW AND CRIME.

At Kingston, Surrey, on Saturday last, an action, entitled Whitmore and others v. Lloyd, was tried before Lord Chief Justice Erle. The plaintiffs claimed as assignees of Antonio Demetrio, a merchant, who in August last became bankrupt under peculiar circumstances. After trading a few years, the assets of Antonio Demetrio were nothing, and his debts £50,000. In October last, two months after the bankruptcy, a cargo of corn, valued at £2000, arrived in England from a Russian port consigned to Demetrio, but assigned, by indorsement of the bill of lading, to a certain firm designated "Lebous and Co." Some person introduced in Hyde Park as "Mr. Lebous" to a Miss Martin sold the cargo to her, and she in her turn sold it to a Mr. Hall. The object of the action above mentioned was to inquire whether the sale to Miss Martin was a genuine transaction, or a fraudulent scheme concocted by the bankrupt and a brother of his, Nicholas Demetrio. Nicholas Demetrio did not appear upon the trial, and is believed to be out of the way, for reasons of his own. The nominal defendant, Lloyd, assumed that position by virtue of a guarantee bond given by him to pay the value of the cargo to the plaintiffs in case the verdict in the action should be in their favour. It was shown that the Demetrios had, for the purposes of carrying on their business, thought fit to open various offices in the City, under the various styles of "Lambe and Co.," "Dalgo and Co.," and "Lebous Brothers," as well as that of Demetrio Brothers, and that at these offices certain boys, engaged at no salary, the initiation into British commercial life being considered equivalent to remuneration, were engaged in keeping up a semblance of business by sitting at desks furnished with blank ledgers, and filling up forms of bills of exchange which one or other of the brothers signed in the various names of the imaginary firms. In order to produce a little pleasing variety in the caligraphy of the different signatures, the use of the steel pen was judiciously alternated with that of the quill. The proof of the value attached to these wonderful documents by the business men of the City is abundantly proved by the extent of the bankrupt's failure. As this kind of business succeeded there so admirably, Nicholas Demetrio persuaded a Mr. Westbrook to migrate to Liverpool, there to form a correlative firm of "Westbrook and Co." Meanwhile, Mr. Nicholas kindly placed Mr. Westbrook's family matters at home in such a train as to enable Mr. Westbrook to sue, subsequently, for a divorce from his wife. On the part of the defendant, Miss Martin appeared to support the transaction on her part with Lebous. From her evidence it appears that in 1847 she became acquainted with a "Mr. Lambe." She knew neither his address nor his occupation, and saw no more of him for ten years. In 1857 she met him in Kensington Gardens. This "Mr. Lambe" introduced her to "Lebous," and recommended her to speculate in a purchase of Russian corn, which Miss Martin did accordingly to the amount already shown, although at this time she was under some slight pecuniary pressure with respect to her laundress, and to certain tradesmen. Miss Martin denied remembering having passed by the name of Smith. She had, it was true, opened letters addressed Smith, and left at her lodgings, and might have termed herself Smith to an extortionate or abusive cabman; but this was because she considered "Smith" was no name. She had known Nicholas Demetrio for four years, and had sued him for board and lodging; but this little legal antagonism did not alter their mutual friendship. She received the money from a cousin who came to Liverpool from Canada in a vessel, name unknown. The cousin never stopped six months in one place, and had since departed for Austria, and had no banker or agent to assist in his affairs. The jury, after nearly four hours' deliberation, returned a verdict for the plaintiffs, the bankrupt's assignees.

George Montague Evans, formerly of Farnham, solicitor, at present an absconded bankrupt, forms the last upon the list of fraudulent solicitors at present published. Mr. Evans, as usual with criminals of his class, appears to have exercised not the slightest compunction towards his victimised clients. If they were wealthy and suspicious of his dealings he involved them in a complication of Chancery suits to baffle investigation, like the cuttlefish, emitting ink when pressed by a pursuer. His respectability procured him appointment as a trustee, and he availed himself of the utter imbecility of his cotrustee on a death-bed to extort from him a signature to a power of attorney enabling himself to receive the entire trust fund. A poor countryman, reduced to sell the freehold which his forefathers had held for nearly two centuries, allowed Mr. Evans to receive the purchase-money, and Mr. Evans, to use the shortest word appropriate, stole it. He embezzled the money of a widowed client by pretending to lend them to a Mr. Truman, the Mr. Truman being a mere sham—in fact, one of the very hollowest of shams, being Mr. Evans himself. Deeds intrusted to him had been mutilated and cancelled in order to give effect to subsequent transfers to his own advantage. All this has been proved, be it known, in an English court, but, unfortunately, in the absence of Mr. Evans, a fact on which the counsel representing that maligned individual dwelt piteously. And where is Mr. Evans? Is he now suffering the toils of penal servitude, or has he sought a disgraceful death by his own dishonoured hand? Not in the least. Mr. Evans has retired to a distant land to enjoy the remnant of the wasted property of his unhappy dupes, and to decide the impotence of the British law, which, had he snatched a watch from a palsy pedestrian, would have dressed him in grey and clapped an iron ring upon his leg for years to come long before the next *Quarterly Review* could have been published. As it is, Mr. Evans's case comes before the Bankruptcy Court, and tends by its result to increase the estimation in which that extraordinary institution is popularly held.

At Hammersmith Police Court a fellow was charged with entering a dwelling-house for felonious purposes. He had provided himself with a skeleton latchkey, of a form which, as it was testified, would open upwards of forty street-doors in the locality in which the man was found. The mistress of a house left it empty while she went to chapel, and immediately after the prisoner entered. He was watched by a neighbour and subsequently captured. It cannot be too strongly impressed upon the minds of housekeepers that the ordinary latchlock affords not the slightest protection against the invasion of thieves. Sunday is especially chosen for the perpetration of domestic robberies.

THE RIFLEMAN WHO SHOT THE DOG.—Mr. Alfred Jones, a solicitor, residing at Wandsworth-common, applied for a summons against Mr. John Kerrison, a member of the Surrey Rifles, of No. 25, Manor-street, Clapham, for cruelly torturing his dog by shooting it. The applicant stated the nature of the case, from which it appeared that on the 20th ult. his sister and two young children and the dog were walking along the avenue upon Wandsworth-common, which was a public footpath, when the lady was startled by hearing the report of a gun, which was immediately followed by the dog springing up in the air wounded. Upon looking in the direction of the smoke from the gun, four young men, dressed in the uniform of a rifle volunteer corps, were seen running off as fast as they were able, and very soon disappeared from the young lady's sight. It was afterwards found that a shot had passed through the body of the dog, and it had been in the hands of a veterinary surgeon ever since. Information was given to the police, and a reward of £10 was offered for the discovery of the parties, and it was only through Kerrison having mentioned the circumstances to some of his companions that they were traced. Mr. Ingham granted a summons against Kerrison, who fired the gun, and also for the attendance of his three companions as witnesses—viz., Mr. E. Sykes, of No. 2, Marlborough-villas, Birdfield-road, Clapham; Mr. R. Barrum, of No. 2, Stockwell-crescent; and Mr. H. J. Jones, the address being unknown. The applicant also applied for a summons for discharging firearms in a public thoroughfare; but the worthy magistrate thought one summons would be sufficient.

ANOTHER INDIAN MASSACRE.—Accounts from Oregon give details of a horrible massacre of inoffensive Indians at several villages around Humboldt Bay by a party of forty white men. On a Sunday morning, at daylight, at Indian Island, opposite the town of Eureka, more than forty Indians were killed, three-fourths of whom were women and children. On the south entrance of Humboldt Bay forty or fifty more were massacred—that is to say, every being with a red skin at that village. It was reported and believed at Eureka that a simultaneous attack was made the same morning upon the Indian villages on Eel River; and that not less than two hundred Indians—men, women, and children—were killed that morning.

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Rich Reps Taffetas, 1s. 11s. 6d.

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